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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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21 March 1984

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BROADCASTER DESCRIBES SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA, KENYA

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 7 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by Sharon Crosbie]

[Text] During her recent trip to Ethiopia and Kenya, award-winning broadcaster Sharon Crosbie became convinced that "politics is a luxury of affluence."

Working with an Australian team making a television documentary on relief work for World Vision, Ms Crosbie travelled throughout Ethiopia, a country with a Christian history and a marxist government.

"It would have been inappropriate to interview anyone," she said. "It could have only got them into trouble with the authorities, but I did keep a full diary of everything I saw."

What she saw included remote airfields with 39 MiGs parked, and wells for water that were "three people deep."

That meant one woman stood on the bottom, another partly on top of her shoulders and partly on a platform. Then gourds full of brackish water were passed up and drunk.

Sermon

From the time her plane touched down in Kenya, Ms Crosbie was brought into close touch with poverty.

"We went straight out along red dirt roads to a black African church service, where the sermon

was on the text, 'It is more blessed to give than receive,' and I couldn't help thinking this would be better directed at those who have rather than those who haven't.

"For lunch we had a sort of maize flour porridge with no nutritional value, white rice with potatoes, and elderly chicken with feathers on it.

"Until you see for yourself," she said, "it is hard to have any idea how these people live."

In Ethiopia, Ms Crosbie noted that the "hammer and sickle greeted people everywhere."

"The customs were punctillous in their search, taking my Woolworths radio apart and looking at some BCNZ tapes I had.

"They clearly feel very insecure. They worry about tapes going out of the country as well. They are not at all forthcoming with information. Cubans and Russians are much in evidence.

"We lived in the Hilton, which is one way the Government there has of keeping track of all Westerners, but we travelled all over

the country," she said.

"Arriving near the border of Kenya, Ethiopia and Sudan, I kept thinking how looney borders and ideologies are. There was just an arid desert stretching everywhere.

"We worked in 45-degree heat. The conditions were atrocious. I just rushed about writing what I thought would be appropriate for the documentary and then talked direct to the cameras.

Scorched

"But the advantage of this documentary style is that New Zealanders will see one of their own people in these surroundings and realise the level of need there."

She spent several days in Kenya, and six in Ethiopia.

Despite being sick with a "stunning" case of diarrhoea, searched and sun-scorched, the trip was worth it, she says.

Some of the footage was "absolutely amazing."

The Australian World Vision team was making its own documentary, but also did the filming for Ms Crosbie's.

As their "poor relation" she researched, scripted, directed, produced and presented her film effort.

Guerrilla activity prevented Ms Crosbie from seeing the northern regions of Ethiopia worst hit by drought.

Among Ms Crosbie's recollections of Ethiopia:

- Seeing an airfield filled with 36 Russian Mig military aircraft in a country where tribes people wore goatskins "Somewhere along the lines priorities have been lost."
- Being watched by security men in the Addis Ababa Hilton and receiving a "more-than-thorough" search on the way out of the country.
- Mercedes taxis giving way to donkeys in the capital.

GREAT STATE OF FLUX IN HORN DEPICTED

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English 1 Feb 84 pp 4-6

[Text]

The Horn region is in a greater state of flux than usual. Because of a complex set of social and political reasons, the nature of the Ogaden dispute is changing. In Ethiopia the anti-government Tigrayan and Eritrean guerrilla movements have extended their activity, yet, paradoxically, recent reports indicate strongly that most of the once 10,000-strong Cuban military contingent in Ethiopia has recently left and not been replaced. Conceivably the Cuban departure tallies with signs that the regime is reducing where possible its dependence on East European assistance. But, perhaps paradoxically again, last month it was announced in Addis Ababa that a new party would be established in Ethiopia (see box overleaf).

However, the most immediate concern is over the Ogaden and the prospect of renewed fighting involving the Somali-backed *Western Somali Liberation Front* (WSLF); the Ethiopian-backed *Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia* (DFSS); the similarly Ethiopian-backed *Somali National Movement* (SNM), and, if hostilities escalate, the Ethiopian and Somali armed forces.

On 19 January the WSLF attacked a train on the Addis Ababa-Diredawa railway near Erer Gota, 80 km to the west of Diredawa, killing 29 people and destroying the train. On 21 January the WSLF attacked a train on the Diredawa-Djibouti railway between Dawanle and Aysha. The train drivers were captured and have not been heard of since, and the railway, crucial for Ethiopia and Djibouti, was temporarily closed. On 29 January the Ethiopian airforce carried out a reprisal bombing of various targets in north-west Somalia. The Somali government reported 60 people killed.

The WSLF began its new season of fighting with a spectacular commando raid on the Jigjiga central prison last October. Jigjiga, located at the mountain gateway leading to Harar and the Ethiopian highlands, has one of the strongest garrisons in the

Ogaden. There were also a number of operations around Dagahbur and Gabridahare. Units of the WSLF are now operating in the Ogaden hinterland, mainly in the Fik, Dahah-madow, Danan and Sagag areas. The offensive follows a major re-organisation in the WSLF's military structure. The military wing is now divided into four or five sectors, the most prominent being the Ahmed Gurey sector in the northern part of the region under the command of **Osman Gab**; the second sector, Ciil Tire, in the central region, is headed by **Ahmed Sheikh**; the third sector, Dufaan, is led by Commander **Dore**; and the fourth sector, Dareen Sane, is under the command of **Sayid Hussein**. A fifth sector, Yassin, appears to have been formed to strengthen the other four.

After a meeting in December of the WSLF central committee, the WSLF secretary-general, **Abdinasir Sheikh Adan**, announced that the WSLF Congress, due to be held this month, had been postponed until next year. Ostensibly the severe drought in the Ogaden and the intensification of WSLF activity in the region were the reasons for the postponement. In fact, the main reason is a battle over the WSLF leadership. At the last WSLF meeting, in 1982, the popular WSLF secretary-general, **Mohamed Diriye Urdoh**, was forced by the Somali government to resign. **Abdinasir Sheikh Adan**, his former assistant, was elected to the post as a compromise candidate. (Ac Vol 24 No 15). But the performance of **Sheikh Adan** and his central committee has fallen short of expectations.

Two things were expected to happen at the WSLF's now postponed congress: the dismissal of the entire WSLF leadership, and a strong attack on Siad Barre's regime, which many Ogadeni intellectuals now believe is providing mere lip-service to their struggle. Immediate action to distance the WSLF from the policies and views of the Somali government could have led to a major split within the ranks of the WSLF. Hence the decision to postpone the Congress until next year. The central committee under-estimated the mood of many WSLF supporters. The radical WSLF Youth Organisation, led by **Abdirahman Mahdi**, bitterly attacked the postponement.

The first major disturbances began early last year with clashes between the Isaq and the Ogaden clans along the Ethiopia/Somali border. Although all the sections of the Isaq clan went to the rescue of their beleaguered Habr Yunis sub-clan, which was fighting against the Rer Dalal sub-clan alone, **Sheikh Adan** refused to provide any help, even when elements of the SNM, with the blessing of the Ethiopian government, moved in to shore up their men and intensify the fighting. Three colonels who defected from the Somali army commanded the raids against

the Rer Dalal. All three are now top officials of the SNM. The chairman of the SNM, Col. **Abdikadir Kosar Abdi**, who is a Habr Yunis, was injured in one of the clashes in mid-1983.

One of the WSLF's well-known commanders, **Ali Shu'a**, angered by the leadership's stand, joined his sub-clan in their fight against the Isaq in a bloody confrontation which has caused unprecedented clan animosity among the Somalis. Although the fighting was later resolved through traditional means of settling disputes, the Rer-Dalal, who belong to the largest group of the Ogaden clan, the Abdille, have not forgiven the WSLF leadership for its lack of concern.

There is growing feeling that the time has come for a change of WSLF strategy to reflect new political developments in the Horn of Africa. Originally there were two options on the question of self-determination for the Ogaden: outright unity with the Somali Republic or the formation of an independent Western Somaliland with close links to Mogadishu. Both options now seem unrealistic. A new option has since become apparent, particularly as result of the Ogaden War and the general views of both the **United States** and the **Soviet Union** about the Horn of Africa: an autonomous status within a federal Ethiopia which would recognise the rights of the Somali nationality.

Somalia, which provides the bulk of WSLF's aid, is coming under increasing pressure from the US to reduce and eventually stop its aid. And the traditional nationalism and popular enthusiasm in Somalia for the liberation of the Ogaden seems to be waning. The fact that the present leaders of the DFSS and the SNM, Col. **Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed** and Col. **Abdikadir Kosar Abdi** respectively, commanded units of Somalis in the 1977-78 Ogaden war, supports this thesis.

But the Ethiopians have been ambivalent about reconciliation in the Ogaden. Those who have returned have received a cold reception, and even those who sided with the Addis Ababa government are frustrated by the Dergue's attitude. The only returnee of note from the Ogaden is the deputy governor of Hararge, **Bashir Sheikh Abdi**, a survivor of the *ancien regime*, who is based in the regional capital of Harar. There are only three Somalis in Ethiopia's COPWE and none of them are from the Ogaden. Ethiopia probably maintains this attitude in order to continue to attract support from its Eastern allies under the pretext of Somali 'threat' or 'aggression' - two popular words in the diplomatic pursuits of the Ethiopian foreign ministry. The Ethiopian government has recently appointed a number of new provincial administrators: **Mahdi Ayub Guled** in Daghabur province; **Ahmed Abdullahi Cagole** in

Gabridahare province; and **Mohamed Haji Abdirahman** in Wardheer province. But they appear to be subordinate to non-Somali military commanders.

Recent reports indicate that about 200,000 refugees who fled from the Ogaden in 1977 and 1978 to escape Ethiopian reprisal have returned to their homelands. The UN and Red Cross have so far registered about 70,000 returnees in Daghabur, Gabridahare and Jigjiga provinces. And it is claimed that about 110,000 Rer Baar clansmen have returned recently at a rate of about 1,000 a day to Quallafo province, which borders the river Shabelle.

However there is doubt about both the numbers and the motives. Certainly the Rer Baar people feel they are discriminated against by the Hamitic Somalis and have found life difficult in the refugee camps. Their agricultural small-holdings along the river have been less affected by the conflict than the pastoral areas. And the Ethiopian government has given them land on which previously they had been only squatters working for landlords. But the total Rer Baar population is no more than 50,000.

Some of the refugees now registering in the Ogaden left refugee camps in Somalia in late 1982 and early 1983 when the Ogaden had good rains. Since then the rains there have failed. Hence the need to register to get relief aid.

But the main reason for the return to their homelands is undoubtedly the growing hostility towards the Ogadeni by Somalis. Local Somali clans welcomed the Ogadeni at first. But because of the changing political alliances of the Somali government (AC Vol 24 No 15) and a propaganda exercise by the anti-Siad Barre Somali opposition, the welcome turned to open hatred.

The Ogadeni refugee camps are mostly in the North-West and Hiran regions. The North West is inhabited by the Isaq clans, most of which support the SNM (AC Vol 24 NO 24), which in turn firmly believes that the Ogadeni people provide crucial support to Barre. Isaqs, particularly those in towns and the large numbers of them who leave to find work in Arab states, fear that Ogadeni refugees might eventually settle permanently in northern Somalia and soon outnumber the Isaq clan.

Isaq and SNM propaganda has persuaded many rural Isaq that the Somali government spends a lot of money on the Ogadeni and that the latter's living standards in the refugee camps are better than in the surrounding Somali villages. The Hawiye people in Hiran region express the same fears about the Ogadeni. In fact the Somali government spends very little on the refugees. Of the total \$20m of food aid Somalia is likely to receive this year only about \$6m can be expected to go to the refugees.

The Ogadeni worry, with some justification, that the UNHCR and the Somali government might have plans to resettle them permanently as farmers and fishermen away from the border area. The majority of Ogadeni refugees do not wish to sever links with nomadism. In order to escape from permanent settlement in an alien, hostile area, many of them are now prepared to go back to their homelands despite the risks.

The Ethiopian government, with support of international aid organisations, has anyhow gone ahead with its plans to resettle non-Somalis in the fertile areas of the Ogaden. Eighty families from Gojjam and Wollo regions have been settled in Gode to start livestock and poultry co-operative farms, which East German experts are helping to set-up. In Qallafo, which is also along the river Shabelle, 40 families have arrived to start a new life ●

Footnote

1. The nine-member WSLF executive committee is composed of:

Secretary-general: Sheikh Abdinasir Sheikh Adan

Deputy Sec-Gen: Abdi Esmail Farah

Defence: Mahamud Ugas Abdi

Foreign relations: Omar Ahamed Ali

Internal affairs: Mohamed Haji Ahamed

Information: Hamoud Ahmed Farah

Finance: Esmail Sheikh Adan

Justice and court affairs: Sheikh Ahamed Sheikh Abdullahi

Inspection and auditing: Mohamed Mahdi Abdi

Social affairs: Hussein Yusuf ●

CSO: 3400/717

PCP SECRETARY GENERAL ON ANGOLAN-PORTUGUESE RELATIONS

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 26 Feb 84 pp 4,9

[Text of interview with Alvaro Cunhal, secretary general of the Portuguese Communist Party, by the Angolan news agency ANGOP, in Lisbon, date not supplied]

[Text] Alvaro Cunhal, secretary general of the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP], recently granted an exclusive interview in Lisbon with the Angolan news agency ANGOP, in which he discussed Angolan-Portuguese relations, as well as Portugal's current political situation as seen by the PCP. For their importance, particularly with respect to the current status of relations between the Portuguese and Angolan governments, we are printing in their entirety Alvaro Cunhal's replies to the various questions that were put to him.

[Question] Dr Cunhal, what is your opinion of the Portuguese Government's policy of cooperation with the Portuguese-speaking African countries, particularly with the People's Republic of Angola [RPA]?

[Answer] Words are words and deeds are deeds. Good talk is not enough. The reactionary forces which support the government are very clear in their distaste for the MPLA and for the Angolan Government's policy of national independence and social justice. Their ties and their cooperation with the racist South Africans are well known. The anti-Angolan campaigns are the daily fare in our pro-government press.

We advocate a policy of sincere cooperation between Portugal and Angola, based on equality, reciprocity of interests, mutual advantage, non-interference in domestic affairs and respect for national independence and sovereignty. So far, we have not seen the Portuguese administration manifest any positions, measures or serious proposals in this sense, or any serious wish to do so.

[Question] Relations between Angola and Portugal are going through a difficult phase at this time. The activity of anti-Angolan subversive groups in Portugal is at the center of the worsening relations between the two governments. As the leader of the major opposition party, would you comment on this situation?

[Answer] Up to now, the anti-Angolan activities in Portugal are still being conducted freely, under government protection. This is a serious obstacle to improved relations between the two countries. The PCP has insistently demanded an end to the support, encouragement and incitement of such activities, and that they be prohibited throughout Portuguese territory.

[Question] With the rising tension in southern Africa, characterized by the South African troops' attacks against neighboring countries, particularly the RPA, what does the maintenance of the apartheid regime in the region mean to you?

[Answer] The apartheid regime is the shame of mankind and one of the basic causes of the conflicts and the instability in the region. Supported, abetted and even incited by North American imperialism, the racist South Africans constitute a force of oppression, aggression and war in southern Africa.

In my view, respect for the independence and rights of the peoples dictates that South Africa must cease its aggressive actions against Angola and Mozambique, that it must finally recognize and insure the independence of Namibia, that it must abolish apartheid and finally grant the South African people their basic rights.

[Question] You recently visited Nicaragua and Cuba, both of which are situated in an area of the world where military conflicts are frequent. How do you assess the policy of the U.S. administration in the region?

[Answer] The Reagan administration is pursuing a policy of intervention, interference, provocation and aggression in Central America. North American imperialism has arrogated the right to prevent peoples from achieving their independence and choosing their own destiny. Revolutionary, heroic and internationalist Cuba enthusiastically and confidently continues to build a new society, and is firmly prepared to defend its independence and sovereignty. And Nicaragua is courageously responding to the counterrevolutionary incursions across its borders and the imperialist threats. It is also firmly determined to defend its independence, for which many thousands of patriots sacrificed their lives.

The provocations, interference and threats and the danger of attack by the North American imperialists are real, but we are certain that the liberation struggle in Latin American is irreversible.

[Question] Dr Cunhal, as the political organization in opposition to the present PS/PSD [Socialist Party/Social Democratic Party] government, the PCP has always taken a critical position on the government's economic and social policy. In the opinion of the PCP, what organizational and structural measures are needed to rescue Portugal from the current economic and social crisis?

[Answer] The basic reason for the crisis is the destructive policy pursued in recent years by successive governments, whose basic policy objective has been to eliminate the nationalizations, agrarian reform and the rights of the workers, to restore the monopolies, the large estates and the capitalist state monopoly. The first condition to save Portugal from the crisis is to stop the counter-revolutionary offensive; instead of destroying them, to dynamize the basic

sectors of the economy (which are precisely the nationalized sectors); to allow the UCPS/Agrarian Reform cooperatives to work in peace, instead of attempting to dismantle them by violent means; to respect the rights of the workers and the broad popular masses (and hence to encourage their participation in the resolution of problems), instead of conducting a policy that greatly aggravates the exploitation and the poor living conditions of the vast majority of the people; and on this basis, to mobilize the nation's resources, capacity and potential, to develop industry and agriculture, to produce more and import less, and to support the nation's economic activities within the framework of a truly democratic and truly national policy.

[Question] Last year the PS/PSD coalition government signed a loan agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the resulting economic austerity is beginning to affect the daily life of the Portuguese workers. What political and social consequences could the accord provoke in Portugal?

[Answer] The IMF agreements have been and are highly prejudicial to Portugal's interests. The terms of the IMF loans mean that the government has agreed to mortgage Portugal's entire future, sacrificing the Portuguese economy and its development in its haste to plug the gaps in the treasury. The conditions of the loan negotiated with the IMF lead to economic stagnation and even recession, high interest rates and mass layoffs. The foreign obligations are increased, while the possibilities of adding to the nation's wealth are diminished. Most of the loans were actually contracted to pay off the amortizations and interest on previous loans. The foreign debt already exceeds \$14 billion and the annual debt service is about \$1.5 billion. This is not the path to the nation's economic recovery, but to the total foundering of our economy and its submission to the interests of imperialism. It is the path to economic disaster and financial bankruptcy.

[Question] Dr Cunhal, the government is engaged in economic reform; among other measures, it has opened the banking sector to private enterprise and, on the other hand, it is applying strong pressure on the state business sector. Are there any political guarantees to defend the nationalizations that followed the April Revolution of 1974?

[Answer] The government is not carrying out any economic reform, but rather counter-reform; in other words, the elimination of the reforms achieved with the April Revolution and consecrated in the constitution. The only sure way of defending the nationalized companies is to struggle steadfastly against the policy of liquidating the nationalizations and to put an end to the policy of restoring monopolistic capitalism, to bring down the government and to form a democratic government with a democratic policy.

[Question] The mass demonstrations against the government policies have recently intensified. Do you think the current PS/PSD government can hold out until the next legislative elections?

[Answer] We feel it is not only necessary but possible that the government will resign or will be forced to resign long before the legislative elections which, under normal circumstances, would be held in 1987. Not only is the government not solving all the problems; it is aggravating them to a disastrous degree.

There are strong disagreements between the government parties and between those parties and their respective bases of support, and those political and social bases of support are rapidly shrinking. The government is entering into confrontation with other organs of sovereignty and with the democratic institutions in general. Finally, a powerful worker and mass movement is developing, which will have a decisive role in the Portuguese situation.

[Question] Dr Cunhal, the rise of agrarian reform caused significant changes in rural working conditions in Portugal. Bearing in mind Portugal's possible admission in the EEC, the government has recommended a series of agricultural measures to adapt Portugal's agriculture, as they argue, to the conditions of the European Community. In your opinion, is the government in a position politically to eliminate the agrarian reform?

[Answer] Like the previous governments, the current PS/PSD government has completely ignored agriculture. The government's so-called "agrarian policy" has consisted basically of insupportable increases in the price of gasoline, fertilizers, feed and other "production factors," unremunerative prices to the producer, difficulties with credit and in the placement of products, refusal to pay indemnization for bad weather and crop epidemics, etc. Small and medium farmers are being ruined, while a huge parasitic network of middlemen is being created, which pays subsistence prices to the producer and markets the products at extremely high prices, out of the reach of the Portuguese masses. Regarding agrarian reform, the government has robbed the UCPS/cooperatives of over 600,000 hectares (half the expropriated land) and turned them over to the big farmers, along with thousands of tractors and head of cattle. This has also been a serious blow to the nation's agriculture. Most of the land that was turned over to the large land owners has been abandoned, while tens of thousands of workers from whom the land was taken are now unemployed.

All this has resulted in a very grave situation for the nation's agriculture and in the aggravation of the foreign trade deficit in the food sector.

Agrarian reform is consistent with the real need for agricultural development in the region of the large estates. The heroic struggle in defense of agrarian reform is continuing.

[Question] In a recent general meeting of the PCP Central Committee, it was decided to seek a democratic candidate for the next presidential elections--an alternative to the candidates of the right-wing parties. Has the PCP already found a candidate?

[Answer] Up to now the PCP has not come up with an democratic candidate to oppose the party candidates on the Right.

[Question] If the PCP does not present its own candidate, what political figure in the democratic area would you consider supporting with your votes?

[Answer] The conditions which we have proposed for a democratic candidate capable of defeating the candidates on the Right (among whom we include Dr Mario Soares, who has become a leader of the reactionaries, are basically as follows: a candidate

who would respect the constitution and democratic legality and would see that they are respected, who would pursue a policy of democratic stability, and who could attract a constituency very similar to the one which elected the current president of the republic. Portuguese democracy requires a candidate not only to run in the elections but to win them.

[Question] Dr Cunhal, could you give us an assessment of the first 7 months of the PS/PSD government?

[Answer] Although it has a different party make-up, the PS/PSD government has basically pursued and even intensified the reactionary policy of the former AD [Democratic Alliance] government formed by the PSD and the CDS [Social Democratic Center Party].

The government has launched succeeding waves of price increases, which have drastically reduced the people's purchasing power and have seriously affected industry and agriculture. Thousands of workers have been laid off, on the pretext that this was needed to keep their companies afloat. The government has allowed over 150,000 employees in factories and companies to go unpaid for months and months. It has increased taxes, housing rents and the cost of health and education. It has intensified the harsh offensive against the nationalizations and agrarian reform and has worked at destroying our economy. It has submitted the foreign policy to the interest of North American imperialism, granting new military facilities on Portuguese territory, granting the use of the port of Lisbon by atomic submarines equipped with nuclear warheads. In the international arena, it has made Portugal the instrument for the intrigues and provocations of imperialism.

I can say without exaggeration that, on balance, the first 7 months of the PS/PSD government have been more than serious; they have been terrifying.

[Question] The United States has decided to strengthen military cooperation with Portugal. What does this increase in US aid to the Portuguese armed forces mean to the PCP?

[Answer] It means, as I said in answer to the previous question, that Portugal's obligations and military dependence have been intensified, with serious danger to our sovereignty, territorial integrity and security.

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CRITICAL SALT SHORTAGES REPORTED

Bread Output Reduced

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 9 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by Jose Luis Fernando: "Lack of Salt Reduces Bread Output in Luanda"]

[Text] The shortage of salt on the market is responsible for the drop in the output of various units constituting the Luanda Provincial Bread-baking Enterprise, regardless of the fact that they are still waiting for the delivery of a shipment of wheat flour which at this time is in the commercial port of Luanda.

These explanations were given by Alfredo Ferreira, general manager, EPAN [Bread-baking Enterprise].

According to the manager, the salt shortage is due to the rainfall which has come down on the city of Luanda. Another alternative to the delivery of salt would be through Benguela; coastal shipping is difficult and would be possible only to the Port of Amboim.

So long as this situation is not resolved, it will be impossible to improve the bread output; there is a plan to deliver 18 tons of salt per week but we are only getting 2 tons and that is not enough to meet the needs of EPAN.

Output has thus dropped 50 percent below the installed capacity of the production units.

Another problem hampering the distribution of bread to the stores in some residential districts, in the suburban areas, has to do with the rainfall which made it impossible for the trains to reach some points; the most hard-hit districts are Cazenga, Boavista, Sambizanga, Samba, Prenda, and the township of Cacuaco, we were told by the EPAN general manager.

The rainfall has caused serious difficulties in the operation of the production units, we were told by Alfredo Ferreira because several of them were closed down for several hours on many days; they are still closed down due to lack of energy or water supply, in addition to the previously mentioned salt problem.

All of these factors, on top of the damage caused by constant energy cutoffs, are responsible for the output drop which of course did influence the distribution system.

Right now, the enterprise is trying completely to restore the Santa Isabel Bakery which must be remodeled; the Kicolo Bakery is also being repaired.

What we are going to try to do this year, in close cooperation with the municipal commissions, is to reorganize the distribution stores because many of them have been seriously damaged and do not present conditions necessary for the sale of the product; in this way we are trying to work out a better way of delivering the bread to the people.

The supply of fresh yeast is guaranteed; the yeast factory now belongs to the EPAN; the same is true of wheat flour which is already at the port; this, combined with the solution of the salt problem, will improve the supply system handling this valuable product; we also plan to step up the delivery of bread to the Armed Forces because SOPAN [expansion unknown] has a good output capacity for solving this problem.

We hope that all of this will come about.

Serious Health Threat

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 16 Feb 84 p 3

[Text] The history of the process of independence of Angola has also been written in the Province of Moxico as an area of great fighting traditions, both against Portuguese colonial occupation and against the bands armed by imperialism that are conducting a continuing and undeclared war of economic destruction against Angola.

The consequences of this treacherous war are all the more striking in the Province of Moxico. The difficulties here are enormous and this is perhaps why supervisory personnel with a medium-level or higher-level education many times prefer to be excused from duty here when they are supposed to be re-assigned to Moxico. The attitude has nothing whatsoever to do with patriotism.

Moxico thus presents a truly dark panorama in spite of its tremendous mineral and agricultural resources which have not yet been explored due to the continuing atmosphere of war that threatens peace in the region and also due to a certain lack of dynamism--we might as well say so quite frankly--which has impaired the political-administrative work done so far here.

The social-economic situation which the province is experiencing at this time could not be worse than it already is. That is not so much due to the fact that, in Lwena (the provincial capital) one can still see the clouds of dust or hear the roar of the cannons, in the defense lines of the FAPLA. The war is being fought, but not in the city.

Besides, it seems, that the local population long ago stopped being scared by the specter of war. In a manner of speaking, we might say that the people keep enjoying themselves as best they can. There is simply no war in the city--only its unpleasant consequences which do create a somewhat heavy atmosphere however.

There are two peculiar features to be pointed out in this connection: First of all, there is no salt in the province and the anemia rate among children is very high. Here is the second one: For more than a month now, the people have had to keep tightening their belts. The province is being supplied in a very risky manner by land and the truck convoy left Lwena more than 30 days ago and has not yet returned.

Life in the city is determined by electric energy, of which there is none, in general terms, because fuel reserves have run out.

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CSO: 3442/296

MILITARY LEADER STRESSES ENERGY PROBLEM IN MOXICO PROVINCE

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 17 Feb 84 p 3

[Interview with Maj Joao Lourenco, Provincial Party Committee Coordinator, Chairman, Regional Military Council, Third Region, and Provincial Commissioner, by W. S.: "Moxico Development Depends on Energy Issue"]

[Excerpt] In spite of the consequences of the war of aggression on the part of Pretoria, coming from the South, which does not permit the adequate utilization of the huge mineral resources (coal, copper, manganese, and iron) that yet remain to be explored, as well as the agricultural resources (rice, cassava, corn, peanuts, and lumber, all of which are of very good quality)--and in spite of a certain lack of dynamism--we might as well say it--which impaired the political-administrative work done so far, the people continue not to be afraid of the clouds of dust or the roar of the cannons and they do not shy away from work in the fields, and the smell of oil does not bother them either.

The consequences of the war are ever-present and the people are also aware that it is necessary to continue to fight. It is true that some cadres, perhaps because of this, often prefer to be excused from an assignment transferring them to Moxico--an attitude that has nothing to do with patriotism--but the people at large, the party, the government officials, the revolutionaries--they all know that the solution to the enormous salt shortage and the very high anemia rate among children is not exactly that. In the light of their experience they know that cowardice means the death of the revolution.

It sometimes happens, as it just did, that the overland supply convoy, with all of the risks involved, left Luena more than 30 days ago and has not yet returned. It also happens, as it just did, that the city is struggling with a lack of electric power because the fuel reserves have run out. But these are the sacrifices that have to be made by the people who live in the Province of Moxico, a region which is writing pages of real acts of heroism, gradually held together on the basis of the resistance offered to the colonialists and now to the aggressors.

The examples given by Moxico are confirmed in an interview given us by the province's top official, Maj Joao Lourenco, who combines the jobs of provincial

party committee coordinator, chairman of the Regional Military Council, Third Region, and provincial commissioner. We met in a rather modest room for visitors in his official residence in Luena.

Covering an area of approximately 24 [as published] square kilometers, with a population of about 310,000, Moxico is experiencing problems which so far have been little reported on. The province is divided into nine townships: Luena (capital), Leua, Cameia, Camanongue, Luau, Luacano, Alto-Zambeze, Lumbala-N'Guimbo and Luchaze; it borders on Zaire in the northeast and on Zambia in the east.

In a rather lengthy conversation with our interviewee who looks very young, we took up a certain number of questions which he answered very competently.

Question: We would like you to give us a general panoramic overview of the province.

Answer: Moxico presently is one of the provinces most hard-hit by the war; here we can feel the bandit actions of UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], a small puppet group, in a very significant manner. This is true not only because this is a border province but also because the enemy considers it an important corridor leading to the Lundas, thus striking at this diamond region.

We know that the enemy at this moment is having big logistics problems in spite of the support given him by the United States of America and by South Africa as well as other Western powers. This is why diamond stealing is also a survival alternative for them.

As a result of these bandit operations conducted by the enemy, the province is today facing a difficult situation which seriously affects all sectors of economic life. I would like to talk here fundamentally about the serious problems we are having with the supply of daily necessities to the people.

Several years ago, the trains were not running from Lobito to Luau and it must be emphasized that one of the main forms of getting supplies to the people in the country's Center, South, and East, particularly in Moxico, always was and continues to be the Benguela Railroad.

One of the big tasks which we, the authorities in Moxico, and also the authorities of other provinces through which the railroad runs, are facing, particularly in the case of the authorities in charge of the 4th Military Region, consists in creating conditions so that the trains will be able to run freely from Lobito to Luau in the very near future.

This is no easy task, we admit, since some bridges along this section have been blown up and since they have to be repaired; we must on top of all this also guarantee safety for railroad traffic in the province itself.

Right now, the province is being supplied by highway. Since we find it impossible to produce a large part of the articles we consume, we are forced

to go looking for commodities in other regions, primarily Luanda, and our highway transportation capacity is very poor.

Question: Could you give us some statistics?

Answer: We have about 100-120 tons of food supplies per convoy and that is quite inadequate. That is not enough to meet the needs of the people whose number has been estimated at about 100,000 inhabitants.

I must point out that we cannot run more than two convoys per month and when we do that, we are already doing very well. That is a very good result because supplies shipped by highway entail a series of inconveniences. First of all, because our transportation capacity is rather poor as I told you before. In other words, during a certain period of time, we do not manage to make the necessary quantities of goods available to the population for its existence.

On the other hand, the enemy has already in recent times tried to make certain difficulties for us in terms of supplies for the province by conducting a series of military operations, specifically, ambushes along the road linking Malanje to Moxico and also in the territory of other military regions which are not our responsibility but which in some way directly or indirectly affect normal supplies coming to our province.

This situation means that both in domestic trade, in construction, in industry, in health, and finally, in a series of provincial government sectors, our activities are seriously harmed since we fail to supply the province with the goods necessary for its survival.

Something was done with the creation of the Regional Military Council in September of last year. We think that, although the situation is still difficult, there are good prospects for the future and we believe that, if we are persistent, we will within a certain period of time manage to solve some of the main problems which at this time beset the Province of Moxico.

While the enemy was on the offensive in the past, we have at this time managed to change that situation and we are getting ready very shortly to launch a big offensive of our own, including, as is quite logical, a "mop-up" of the townships which are seriously hit by the war, that is Alto Zambeze, Luchazes, and Lumbala-N'Guimbo.

Among other things it is also our duty to restore peace along the province's natural borders, thus contributing to the restoration of the borders of the People's Republic of Angola.

Question: Why do you describe the time which the province is going through now as being difficult?

Answer: Well, we use the term difficult because the province is still living in an atmosphere of war, an atmosphere which, as I said before, involves all sectors of life in the province. This atmosphere of war means that we are not managing to supply the province with all the goods we need and that affects

the development of the energy, commerce, industry, agriculture, and teaching sectors, in other words, it affects the province in a general way; so long as we do not resolve the issue of the war, we will not be able to solve other problems of an economic-social nature.

We are at this time struggling with a serious problem involving energy here in the province. This has seriously impaired the development of our existing small-scale industry and we are therefore thinking that it is logical first of all to address ourselves to the electric power issue.

We have made contact with the Central Government in an effort to solve the province's energy problem. Once this problem has been solved, we believe that we will have created the conditions which, as of that moment, will enable us to think in terms of the province's subsequent economic growth.

Without that we can only look forward to development in agriculture which, quite logically, is also threatened due to the war situation that is making itself felt in the rural areas.

Question: What would the immediate solution to the energy problem here in the Province of Moxico be?

Answer: Well, a dam, the Dala Hydroelectric Dam, has been under construction here in Southern Lunda for several years now; its completion will benefit the provinces of Southern Lunda, Northern Lunda, and Moxico. For these three provinces therefore the solution really involves the completion of this dam which, according to all indications, we cannot expect to finish any time soon.

This being so, the alternative would involve the replacement of the power generating groups which, although they have a great capacity, have already been in use for many years.

Question: Are these power generating groups going to be replaced any time soon?

Answer: I would not say that this would happen any time soon. We have presented this problem to the Central Government and its solution depends not only on us but on the Central Government. In the meantime, we keep hoping.

Question: How are local authorities planning to solve the province's supply problem?

Answer: The ideal solution would be for us to make a combined effort. All provinces involved in this matter, and that includes Benguela, Huambo, Bie, and Moxico, should coordinate their efforts so as to permit the free movement of trains through a series of military operations.

We think that this is the only ideal solution. All other solutions would be transitory and temporary and they would only patch the situation up for a short time. Therefore, the solution is this: Make sure that the trains of the CFB [Benguela Railroad] can move freely.

Until this happens, we will only be able to reduce the problem very slightly and we will not be solving it at all, no matter how many trucks we have, no matter how many aircraft the Central Government could make available to us.

Question: This means that the problem of Mexico is fundamentally a military problem.

Answer: Not only as far as Mexico is concerned because a large part of the economic and social problems which the country still has to solve have so far not been solved precisely because of the military situation we find ourselves in. The only thing that could enable us to solve the problems that still very seriously affect the life of the people is the solution of the military problem in all of the country's provinces where it exists, as the result of a combined effort.

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ANGOLA

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN--Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, appointed Fernando Jose Franca Dias van Dunen as the ambassador to Spain. Comrade Fernando Jose Franca Dias van Dunen will therefore represent Angola to the governments of Portugal and Spain. [Text] [Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 19 Feb 84]

NEW MILITARY CALL-UP--Within the framework of the need to defend the fatherland, all citizens born between 1960 and 1965, all citizens possessing expired postponement permits, and all those who have been called up but have not yet presented themselves must present themselves for military induction as of 20 February. Also to present themselves at the Textil Clube basketball grounds are Angolans born in 1959. [Text] [MB151030 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 15 Feb 84]

CSO: 3442/297

PROFESSOR CLAIMS BUDGET PROTECTS AFFLUENT, NEGLECTS POOR

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 22 Feb 84 pp 1, 4

[Article by Jowitt Mbongwe]

[Excerpt] **GABORONE, February 20:** Professor Oommen, Head of the Department of Economics at the University of Botswana has claimed that this year's budget is protecting the most affluent section of the society against inflation while neglecting the under-privileged.

Commenting on the 10 per cent salaries increase for civil servants and the tax concessions for married people, Professor Oommen alleged that an across-the-board increase was unfair and negative because it placed the considerations of equity at a discount.

He pointed out that it was "a richman's budget which widened the gap between the highly paid and the lowly paid."

"It is not in line with the declared principle of social justice which is one of the basic social goals of this country. All are jointly building the economy so they should share the benefits equitably," he said.

Professor Oommen stated that "we are going to end up in a situation where there is poverty in the midst of plenty."

He said the most important feature of the budget was that it is a surplus budget and not a deficit budget as in many countries in the developing world.

He noted that compared to the revenue estimated, the expenditures provided for are not adequate.

Given the uncertainty in revenue, he said, this country can have a core expenditure programme along with less priority expenditures.

He praised the Vice President and Minister of Finance and Development Planning, Mr Peter

Mmusi for having given the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Water Affairs the largest share in the budget in the light of the continuing drought.

Unemployment, industrial development and remote area development were issues that are inadequately touched in the budget, he said.

Professor Oommen said the 1980 census showed that 18 500 people were unemployed, about 20 000 were entering the labour force annually whilst about 45 000 were estimated to be redundant in agriculture.

FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS SAID TO EXIST BENEATH SURFACE PROSPERITY

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 28 Feb 84 p 4

[Article by Peter Greson]

[Text] GABORONE--In Botswana's sweltering capital of Gaborone, the talk these days is of diamonds and drought.

Perched precariously between its giant White neighbour to the south and more radical Black States to the north, Botswana is politically stable and economically booming.

It is a country so parched by drought that its only brewery recently placed adverts urging its customers to drink less, a move aimed at saving water rather than promoting health.

Such is the importance of rain that the Setswana word for it, "pula", also means money, hello and cheers.

For the third successive year, the all-important seasonal rains have been meagre, leaving dried-up watercourses etched like raw scars on the desert scrub that makes up 80 percent of the land.

But somehow Botswana has shrugged off the drought.

Growth

As its similarly stricken neighbours were pleading for international aid, Botswana's buoyant economy recorded a healthy balance of payments surplus, record amounts of foreign exchange and a level of growth to be envied by mightier states.

Botswana are the first to agree that this has been partly due to luck.

The country is blessed with three rich diamond mines, whose gem quality is among the best in the world. After two depressed years. The industrial world's move out of economic recession last year meant diamond sales began to sparkle again.

So much so that export earnings from diamonds doubled in 1983 from 1982 to about R462,5-million, two thirds of Botswana's export earnings.

Diamond production of 11 million carats--a million more than forecast--put Botswana in the top three world producers, along with South Africa and the Soviet Union.

But luck has nothing to do with the prudent pragmatism that marks Botswana's diplomatic and political style.

A relaxed and friendly multi-racial democracy, Botswana's one-million people are scattered around a country the size of France.

About 60 000 live in the rustic capital, Gaborone, where the bush edges up to the back of Parliament and red dirt roads go off at right angles to the central shopping plaza.

Rare in Africa

Botswana is also rare in Africa in that it has an impeccable human rights record. "You know, there's not a single political prisoner here. Where else in Africa can you say that?" a visitor heard from several sources.

Two Opposition parties hold three of the 32 seats in the National Assembly and there is a lively Opposition-oriented weekly newspaper. A Government daily, a four-page broadsheet printed half in English and half in Setswana, is handed out free in Gaborone's tree-lined central mall.

But Ministers and senior civil servants agree that beneath the surface prosperity there are some fundamental problems.

Foremost is unemployment, the Vice-President and Finance Minister, Mr Peter Mmusi, said in his recent Budget speech that even current high job growth rates could only provide work for 12 000 of the 20 000 people who enter the labour market yearly.

There was little prospect of that situation improving before the end of the decade, and he emphasised the need to intensify efforts to create new job opportunities, particularly in rural areas.

Drought's Toll

For it is in the bush that the drought has taken its toll.

Even normal rainfall can barely sustain the country's 80 000 small farmers and their families--75 percent of the population--who scratch a living from the land and a recent scientific study which predicted the drought may last a decade is being taken seriously.

Food production has fallen drastically over the last three years so that present crops are only expected to total 10 percent of national food requirements.

"That in itself is no problem, as they can afford to buy whatever they want and relief aid has been generous," one Western diplomat commented.

"But the man in the bush whose crops have failed, pastures shrivelled and cattle died has nothing left. He drifts towards the nearest handout station and that bit of the land he had nurtured reverts to scrub."

It is now widely accepted that half Botswana's population receives some sort of food aid and the country's urbanisation rate is described as the highest in Africa.

Economists forecast that a third of the population will be urban by the end of the decade, compared to under 10 percent at independence in 1966.

Gaborone houses the modest headquarters of the Southern African Development Co-ordination conference (SADCC), a nine-nation group of underdeveloped Black States trying to reduce economic dependence on South Africa.

There are no formal diplomatic ties between the two, but Botswana--like fellow SADCC members Swaziland and Lesotho--is linked in a customs union with South Africa.

CSO: 3400/716

UK GIVES TRAILERS FOR FOOD DISTRIBUTION TO DROUGHT

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 21 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpt] GABORONE, FEBRUARY--The Botswana Government has received 39 trailers from the British Government to be used for the distribution of foodstuffs to people in drought-stricken areas in the country.

The trailers worth P80 000 have been manufactured by Cliff Engineering in response to President Quett Masire's 1983 Drought Relief Appeal.

The British High Commissioner to Botswana Mr W. Jones handed over the donation to the Vice President Mr Peter Mmusi at a ceremony held outside the National Assembly building in Gaborone.

Mr Jones disclosed that in addition to the donation his government has agreed to provide 29 water tanks at an estimated cost of P62 000 to assist drought affected villages.

The delivery of the trailers started this week. The trailers were being supplied to the councils and regional medical offices to be used by the mobile health clinics for the government feeding scheme.

Receiving the trailers, the Vice President said "we are entering another vicious year of drought" and appealed for more facilities in respect of transport, water and food for vulnerable rural population.

Mr Mmusi told the British envoy that the assistance was very much appreciated and that it would get to the people for which it was intended.

He said the trailers have an added value in that they were manufactured in the country.

The Vice President noted that health posts and clinics are everywhere in the country and recalled with gratitude the last donation given by the British Government in for of good

CSO: 3400/716

EFFECTS OF 2-YEAR DROUGHT ON NATION NOTED

Gaborone DAILY NEWS in English 21 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by Alaudin Osman]

[Text]

GABORONE: A congregation of about 500 people, among them the President Dr Q.K.J. Masire, prayed for rain here last week.

The open-air prayers are becoming a regular feature in the capital and a grim reminder of the fact that Botswana is still in the throes of a drought that is devastating most of southern Africa.

Unless the rains come, more people will continue to be laid off work; more cattle will perish and more crops will continue to shrivel up under the burning sun. The government, in turn, will be forced to continue to pump funds into programmes that have been designed to alleviate the suffering of the people.

As the Vice President and Minister of Finance and Development Planning, Mr Peter Mmusi reminded Parliament this week, two consecutive years of drought have inflicted serious damage to crop production.

The total output of food crops fell from 17 220 tonnes in 1982 to 14 425 tonnes in 1983, which was only 10 per cent of total national food grain requirement.

These figures, he said when presenting the budget proposals, compare with 54 285 tonnes produced in 1981.

During this same period, according to the figures that he disclosed in Parliament, the livestock mortality rate increased from 15,2 per cent in 1982 to 16,3 per cent in 1983.

A national cattle herd population of 2 979 000 in 1982 was reduced by the following year, to 2 818 000.

The effect of these factors was the drying up of rural incomes and the depletion of food resources.

The government is now adopting what the Vice President called a 'National Food Strategy' (NFS).

The NFS is to provide the framework within which planning and implementation will be done consistently, in crop production, the provision of consumer goods to facilitate food processing throughout the country, the reduction of malnutrition, the increased security of access to food supplies at all times, and the preparation of contingency plans to combat the effects of the drought.

This, is in addition to a P13 million drought-relief package that the government allocated mainly in the form of food aid last year.

According to Mr Mmusi, a total of 200 000 primary school children and 302 000 persons in the vulnerable group categories were fed through clinics from the food aid.

Other measures that have been taken by the government to help farmers and the people generally, include the provision of stock feed and vaccines, free seed and subsidy of draught power hire charges, borehole drilling,

supplementary feeding and labour-based relief projects.

A new incentive has also been introduced under the Arable Land Development Programme, (ALDEP). Government will now pay 85 percent of the cost of the ALDEP package and small farmers would contribute the remaining 15 per cent.

Besides ALDEP, the government has committed well over P10m to the Financial Assistance Policy, (FAP) which is meant to open up business for Batswana entrepreneurs and to create more jobs and generate more money in the rural areas.

Mr Mmusi also told Parliament that 3 500 jobs would be created as a result of these commitments. Of the 419 small-scale projects approved under the scheme, 84 per cent in the rural areas, he said. And 36 per cent of the projects are agricultural.

Despite these remarkable achievements there have been internal criticisms levelled at the schemes.

Some members of the opposition parties, for example, have labelled the ALDEP a 'donkey scheme' because of one of its recommendations for the use of donkeys as one of draught power components.

There have also been criticisms

that the FAP was being smothered by too much 'red tape' and complex application forms.

"But this is to be expected in a multi-party democracy such as ours," countered a senior official in the rural sector.

"While there may have been a few bottle-necks here and there, we can at least look at our critics and friends in the eye because things work here."

The friends that the official referred to were the overseas donors. Governments such as those of Britain, the USA, Germany, France, Canada and China have responded promptly to Botswana's plea for help over the drought with financial grants, medicines, vitamin-enriched foods, vehicles and equipment.

One Western diplomatic source stated that Botswana was virtually in a most favourable position because of its excellent record in development and in its adherence to principles of participatory democracy.

He saw the drought as a temporary set-back. "This country has tremendous potential," he added.

In the meantime, however, the rationing of water and the lay-offs continue here. And the people continue to pray.

CSO: 3400/716

BNF SECRETARY, MP COMMENT ON ROYALISTS BNF MEMBERSHIP

Giddie's Interview

Gaborone THE BOTSWANA GUARDIAN in English 3 Feb 84 p 4

[Interview with BNF Secretary General, Mr. Mareledi Giddie (assisted by James Olesitse, Lenyeletse Koma and Obonetse Menyatso); date, place not given]

[Text]

Guardian: Recently some prominent royalists in Serowe announced that they have joined the BNF. Just how politically significant is this development.

Giddie: The BNF is a mass organisation composed of people of different classes and the decision of royalists in Serowe is not surprising because BNF policies are beginning to appeal to people of all sectors. The significance of chiefs joining us is that they could draw a following into the BNF but we cannot ignore the fact that the following could be just a mob following who do not understand the policy of the party. The duty of the BNF here is to step forward and teach its policies and take advantage of the present situation to shake the stronghold of the BDP in Serowe.

Guardian: How do you assess the political influence of these royalists?

Giddie: Historically, these prominent royalists were very influential and they have been involved in several situations in that area and they have proved to be influential. Their influence still prevails and they are sure to pull a majority of their followers into the BNF.

Guardian: Is it part of your strategy to break the traditional alliance between royalists and the BDP?

Giddie: It has always been our strategy to break down this alliance because the chiefs supported the BDP and actually helped it into power, but the BDP never gave them any power they had in the old days. We advocate that chiefs should be given power to represent their people in Parliament. It's through this alternative that we hope to break the alliance between chiefs and the BDP not temporarily but for good.

Chiefs are not only

unhappy about the BDP they are also assessing the economic crisis in this country. They are also complaining about lack of consultation. On our part we are striving for a national democratic state where democratic rights will be extended to other groups and no sector shall be left out.

Guardian: The political conflict between chiefs and modern politicians is not unique to Botswana. How do you plan to resolve this conflict?

Giddie: Chiefs should go to Parliament and not stand for elections, to represent their power and their people. And that way we would have extended democratic rights to that sector and, therefore, there would be no contradiction between our government and chiefs. The House of Chiefs is just a useless instrument to make chiefs believe that they have political power

when, in fact, they have not.

Guardian: In some quarters the BNF is accused of exploiting tribal sentiments in Serowe.

Giddle: We are not appealing to tribal sentiments. We are appealing to patriotism and we want patriots to come together to defeat the BDP. It is our duty to appeal to all groups in Botswana.

We are, however, aware that the BDP has previously used chiefs and tribalism to come to power. The late President was a chief and he was mainly supported because of his birth status as a royal figure. This is how the BDP came to power and remained in power. We won't follow that path because it will be wrong to take advantage of people's political ignorance.

Guardian: What is the BNF position on

Bangwato's demand that the portrait of Sir Seretse Khama should not be removed from the country's currency?

Giddle: It was not necessary to change the portrait because before the currency was introduced, there was consultation throughout the country. Even the name and format of the currency came from the people and to change the people's wishes without consulting them is a serious mistake.

Guardian: But the law says whoever is an incumbent president will have his portrait in the Pula currency.

Giddle: The fact that there is a law does not automatically stop consultation, especially that Botswana is a developing country and many things are not clear to the ruled. During their rule, the BDP has not made efforts to teach people and they are now surprised when people are reacting against lack of consultation.

Guardian: What are BNF's chances in the Serowe Constituency in this year's general elections?

Giddle: It will be a tough contest, but we are confident of winning.

Chiepe's Interview

Gaborone THE BOTSWANA GUARDIAN in English 3 Feb 84 pp 5, 7

[Interview with Dr. Gaositwe Chiepe, MP for Serowe South and Cabinet Minister; date, place not given]

[Text]

Guardian: The recent announcement that some prominent royalists in your constituency have joined the BNF has aroused a great deal of interest and speculation regarding the future of Serowe as BDP stronghold. Do you think the recent

development warrants attention?

Chiepe: Of course, the development warrants attention but it's not a threat. It would have been worrying if these royalists had been members of the BDP. But they have not been members and they have

never really supported the BDP, and since they have all the rights, they have decided to join the BNF. I'm not worried.

Guardian: Since chiefs tend to play a prominent role in our politics, don't you think the royalists in Serowe are likely to have a significant number of voters going with them to the BNF?

Chiepe: I do not think they have really influenced the tribe much. The people of Serowe understand politics and they know what they want.

Guardian: Don't you think that the decision by the royalists could be a sign of bigger things to come?

Chiepe: No, of course a few people may follow them, but they will be too few to influence things. The alliance between BDP and chiefs is still there. Recently, I addressed about five meetings a day for four days, granted I was talking about registration of voters, but nowhere in any of my meetings did any issue arise that was not connected with registration.

Guardian: This defection to the opposition by chiefs, I use defection because generally chiefs tended to be pro-BDP, could it be an indication that chiefs are now disgruntled?

Chiepe: These particular royalists in Serowe have always been disgruntled and it's not a question of them defecting to the opposition. They have not been with us.

Guardian: But in the House of Chiefs one has an impression that chiefs

are very much frustrated by lack of political power.

Chiepe: I do not think they should be frustrated because they do say what they think about certain things — the normal traditional things which is their province and that is not interfered with by the government. The chiefs and government should be on the same side, they are not in opposite camps. It is just a question of misunderstanding sometimes.

Guardian: Would you agree that chiefs would like to play a more prominent role in politics other than being the mouthpiece of government?

Chiepe: The point is what do they regard as their duty? If they want to play a political part in the life of the nation, then they must give up chieftainship and become politicians and they will be very welcome. The MP for Kanye South was a most prominent chief. He resigned and took up politics. The others could do the same if they feel they can have a better input if they were political animals. But at present they are not and, therefore, they should stick to what they are.

Guardian: In Serowe, one gets the impression that the portrait dispute is still a big problem. Would you say the issue has been resolved?

Chiepe: I do not know how big the problem is because as I said it never raised its head. When there was this controversy sometime last year, we held meetings not in the big kgotla but in smaller kgotlas to explain the whole con-

stitutional issue. The people understood what it was all about. You cannot expect hundred per cent agreement from everybody, but the main thing was: do they understand what has happened and why? And I think they do.

I'm told that at a recent meeting where the gentlemen you referred to earlier (royalists who joined BNF) spoke, the portrait issue came up again. They, I'm told, to quote what they said: "Minister Kwelagobe promised them", I was not at that meeting and do not know what he promised them. I do not know if it's true. As far as I'm concerned it's a constitutional issue which was explained fully. It's just being divisive but on the whole the majority of people understand.

If they did not like it they know it's constitutional and they have left it as such.

After all, the BNF, which is making capital out of it, if they do take over some day it is their president whose portrait will be on the currency until they change the Bank of Botswana Act to something else.

Guardian: Minister, there appears to be a feeling in some quarters in Serowe that the BDP has failed to keep faith with the constituents by being seen to be now moving away from the image of Sir Seretse as a chief.

Chiepe: I do not think that is true. My constituency is still as solid as ever — DOMKRAG. They know the late Sir Seretse is the founder of Domkrag and they are

Domkrag members because they agreed with his policies, but surely they cannot say he is still the leader of the BDP. His ideas and policies are what they believe in and which they are prepared to continue following.

Guardian: Don't you think because of the absence of the late President the people in your area are now beginning to look to other parties since the man who they regarded as their traditional leader is not there?

Chilepe: No, they feel they would be betraying his memory if just because he has left them they leave everything he stood for and join parties which were against all he did to build up the nation.

Guardian: Do you expect tough competition in this year's general elections?

Chilepe: There may be some competition, but I do not think it will be tough. If it's tough, I couldn't like anything better because I like to fight. It would be a good fight.

CSO: 3400/716

BRIEFS

ZIMBABWE TROOPS ALONG BORDER--Tension and panic have gripped villagers on both sides of the Botswana-Zimbabwe boundary, following the recent introduction of a dusk to dawn curfew in Matebeleland and the subsequent massing of Zimbabwe troops along the border, reports John Kula. The Botswana Defence Force has stepped up its ground and air border patrols. Most veterinary guards stationed along the border no longer sleep in their tents. They abandon them at night and seek refuge in the bush or nearby villages. At the time of going to press the BDF unit at Jakalasi No. 2 had advised veterinary employees in the area to refrain from patrolling the border fence until further notice. The Guardian reporter on a tour of the border areas last week, was thoroughly scrutinised by both villagers and BDF patrol units. [Excerpt] [Gaborone THE BOTSWANA GUARDIAN in English 17 Feb 84 p

CSO: 3400/716

SUCCESS OF EPLF OFFENSIVE REPORTED

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English 8 Jan 84 p 7

[Text]

ETHIOPIA: EPLF'S OFFENSIVE. With the next round of Eritrean unity talks due in Khartoum in March, the *Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front* (EPLF), the largest of the Eritrean groups, has been underlining its claims to be considered as the only guerrilla group operating inside Eritrea. On 15 January after two days of heavy fighting EPLF forces captured the important town of Tessenai in western Eritrea. The EPLF claim that 900 of the Ethiopian garrison were killed, wounded or captured; and that only 200 managed to retreat south towards the Ethiopian bases of Um Hajer and Humera on the Takazze river. It appears that several hundred other Ethiopian troops retreated to Kassala near the Sudanese border. Eritrean losses were also heavy, particularly after Ethiopian air attacks with both MIG23s and Mi24 helicopter gunships. Two other villages near Tessenai, Ali Gidir and Nimra Ashara, were also captured after little resistance. They have since both been the target for Ethiopian air raids.

Tessenai was chosen as a target by the EPLF in part because the usual 3,000-strong garrison there was not at full strength. A lot of troops were out looking for the guerrillas. There has been activity around Tessenai for some weeks. In a clash on 10 January about 20 soldiers were killed; and last month the UNHCR "temporarily postponed" its \$3.5m resettlement programme for returning refugees at Ali Gidir. The programme has always been a prime target for the guerrillas, who strongly deny that any Eritrean refugees have been returning.

Equally important is the fact that in the past the Tessenai area has always been outside the EPLF's sphere of operations. Some of the EPLF units involved moved into the area via Sudan in order to avoid ELF and ELF/PLF guerrillas who have also been active around Tessenai in recent months. With the current emphasis on unity, neither ELF nor ELF/PLF are likely to complain publicly, though we understand they were not consulted in advance by the EPLF.

It is unlikely that the EPLF will continue to hold Tessenai, or even try to do so. It is flat open country, well suited to Ethiopian mechanised units. There are considerable Ethiopian forces further south at Um Hajer and Humera, including at least 2 brigades of the 7th division. Other Ethiopian units are based at Sabderat to the north, Cheru to the north east, and at Aicota and Barentu to the east on the route to Agordat and Keren. Barentu for example has two brigades; the 29th mechanised brigade is in western Eritrea, and so is a considerable part of the 24th mechanised division raised last year to take part in the largely successful, if costly, operation to cut the links between the EPLF and the *Tigray Peoples Liberation Front* (TPLF) in neighbouring Tigray region.

The EPLF has not confined its current offensive to the west of Eritrea. In its first real move out of the enclosed areas around Nacfa and the north west Sahel, it has also attacked several other points, including Mai Atal (close to Massawa on the road to Asmara) and Debaroua, the copper mining town south of Asmara on the road to Mandefera. At Debaroua, two military posts were taken in mid December, though, as at Mai Atal, no attempt was made to hold onto the positions.

The sudden upsurge in EPLF activity, though widely expected, underlines Ethiopia's need for military conscription. Decreed last year, registration began on 14 January. According to official sources in Addis Ababa 13,000 registered in two days. It is far from certain whether the ministry of defence, or the military commissariat department responsible for organising national service will be able to cope with the numbers which will in theory be available for the 6 months military training and two years active service. When the military service decree was announced last year there was a sudden influx in the number of refugees reaching Sudan. Once a call-up actually starts the numbers leaving Ethiopia, by whatever means, is certain to rise sharply once again ●

CSO: 3400/717

KENYA

BRIEFS

DEFENSE BUDGET--The defense budget for 1983-84 is worth 140 million Kenyan pounds, representing 12% of the budget total and 4% of the GNP.
[Text] [London AFRICAN DEFENCE in English No 40, Dec 83 p 22]

CSO: 3400/683

LESOTHO

BRIEFS

STUDENTS TO STUDY IN DPRK--A large number of students sponsored by the Basotho National Party [BNP] left Maseru today, on the first leg of their trip to North Korea, where they will pursue a variety of academic studies. The students who will join several North Korean academic institutions, will study aircraft engineering, medicine, agricultural engineering, and mechanical engineering. At the airport to see the students off were the North Korean ambassador, His Excellency An Kyong-kyon; the deputy secretary general of the BNP and minister of works, The Honorable Likhoana Jonathan; the minister of information broadcasting, The Honorable Tsepo Sixishe; and the principal Chief of Tsikwane, Peka, and (Kolbera), Morena Lichisa Mathealira. The students were also seen off by a large group of parents and relatives. [Text] [MB081628 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 8 Mar 84]

CSO: 3400/733

ACTIVITIES OF MAURITIUS-MADAGASCAR FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION REVIEWED

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 7 Feb 84 pp 1-3

[Interview with Abdul Peerbux, President of the Mauritius-Madagascar Friendship Association, by Roland Solonirina Ramboatiana; date and place not specified]

[Excerpt] It is not only political figures who are working for South-South and regional cooperation. In fact, a number of associations for friendship among the peoples of the Indian Ocean have been formed here and there. The oldest is indisputably the Mauritius-Madagascar Friendship Association, established on 30 May 1980 and with headquarters at the El-Monaco Hotel in Quatre-Bornes, Mauritius. The association's membership is composed of Mauritians and Malagasy by birth and nationality, and its president is Abdul Peerbux. Since he is currently visiting Madagascar to attend the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Antananarivo Doyen Lions Club, he agreed to answer our questions.

MADAGASCAR MATIN: Would you tell us a little about the origin of this Mauritius-Madagascar Friendship Association?

Peerbux: It is an association that was founded with the purpose of promoting and developing friendly relations and mutual cooperation between the Democratic Republic of Madagascar and Mauritius; encouraging and spreading cultural enlightenment between the two islands; organizing conferences, performances, and language courses; promoting exchanges, particularly of young people, artists, and lectures; and establishing libraries and reading rooms, as well as other institutions promoting these objectives. The association was officially recognized by the Mauritian Government on 30 May 1980, the date of our first activities.

M. M.: What were these first activities?

Peerbux: We organized a 2-day exhibit of Malagasy crafts. It should be mentioned that the objects we displayed were borrowed from members of the association, but the visitors were interested to the extent that they wanted to buy them. Then, we gave a press conference at Port Louis and prepared a radio program to give information about Madagascar. We gave a copy of the program to Malagasy Radio-Television. At the end of June 1980, we celebrated Madagascar's 20th anniversary of independence and organized various tennis tournaments, card games, etc... At the beginning of 1982, when we learned that Madagascar had been hit by a flood, we made collections in cooperation

with the Lions Club and sent 3 tons of supplies including dairy products, candles, clothing, medicine, etc... Here I would like to warmly thank Air Madagascar and Air Mauritius companies, which undertook to transport these gifts to Antananarivo. In the same year we arranged a folklore and food evening with the participation of Voninavoko and Rafales 2000.

M. M.: And in the cultural field?

Perrbux: That is going well now. When Mr Rabenoro, president of the Malagasy Academy, visited en route to India, we met with him several times and asked him to send lecturers to Mauritius so that our people can broaden their knowledge of Madagascar. However, we have also been able to perform some humanitarian actions. For example, a Malagasy tourist was struck by a motorcycle the day before his departure. Since he did not have a penny and his condition required hospitalization, members of the association took charge of him until he recovered.

M. M.: What about sports?

Peerbux: We have not been able to do much in this area, however now that a Madagascar-Mauritius association* exists, we will be able to do a lot. For example, by arranging, together with the sports organizations in the two countries, friendly games or training matches of a Malagasy or Mauritian team. We are also considering helping young Malagasy improve their English. In other words, every initiative will be considered by the two associations in order to further improve the understanding between the two islands and even among the countries of the Indian Ocean, because we may also establish such associations with Reunion and the Seychelles.

M. M.: In conclusion, Mr President, tell us a little about the members of your association.

Peerbux: I forgot to mention this at the beginning of our interview, but it should be emphasized that this association is entirely apolitical. In regard to the members, let us say simply that we are friends of Madagascar who would like to work for understanding between the sister islands. Some government officials and political personalities are also members of the association, but I repeat that it is entirely apolitical. Also, we may help Malagasy businessmen in regard to products they might sell or buy in Mauritius by facilitating their contacts.

* The Madagascar-Mauritius Friendship Association was established in Madagascar in December 1983, when its statutes were submitted to the government. Its headquarters is located at 52 Avenue du 26 June 1960, Antananarivo, Madagascar.

REFORESTATION OF DENUDED AREAS WITH EUCALYPTUS UNDERWAY

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 7 Feb 84 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] On Saturday, 6,000 eucalyptus trees were planted in Tsararivotra-Tsiafahy, a firaisampokontany of Antananarivo-Atsimondrano.

This firaisampokontany of Tsararivotra has been working for several years to reforest "tanety" areas whose very poor soil is no longer useful for any other crop. The firaisana's goal is to reforest an area of 34 hectares.

Early on Saturday morning, the delegations that had come on foot from the 15 fokontany of this firaisana were at work. Each carrying a small basket to carry the plants and a spade, they went to the faritany nursery at Tsiafahy then to the reforesting areas. Each was assigned to plant five eucalyptus trees, however some planted more on behalf of someone absent. A register was kept of those present because since the firaisana trees will one day benefit the residents, it is appropriate that the people, without exception, join in the work.

There have not been any tanety fires in this firaisana, however the people were convinced of the need to plant the trees. Each fokontany is expected to plant within a few weeks on land belonging to it, usually public land, 2,000 eucalyptus trees, which in a few years will produce fine little forests in this very denuded area. This planting of 2,000 trees by each fokontany is to be completed before the end of the rainy season.

Also participating in the reforesting were Razafindralambo Thomas, faritany vice president; Andriamanisa Samuelson, elected deputy for fivondronana Antananarivo-Atsimondrano; Ramalanjaona Jean Christ Aime, faritany president; as well as administrative committee members of the fivondronana and the firaisana, who urged the people to take care of the trees that they had just planted.

This fivondronana is very large but has limited resources. The land, eroded over many years by brush fires, is washed every year into nearby rivers. Here in Tsararivotra faritany it is the Sisaony that is getting the arable soil, since its bed is built up every year. Because of the shortage of cultivable land, the people rush to the banks of this river to plant strawberries, vegetables and flowers.

No Longer any Bridge

Reforestation operations of this kind should be multiplied, particularly in this fivondronana of Atsimondrano and in other areas lacking trees. There has been an unusual kind of theft: in an area between the limits of Antananarivo-Atsimondrano and Andramasina, where there are three or four bridges, the road is often cut because the timbers of the bridge have been stolen.

Not very long ago, a car went to Andramasina without any problem, but on the return the road was cut: there was no longer a bridge. This very denuded area does have people, and they need wood. The fact that the thieves are taking the bridge timbers may not mean they will be used for firewood, but possibly for another purpose, carpentry, for example. Thus far, no one has been able to catch up with these bridge thieves; perhaps one day they will be caught. However, the only remedy for this annoying practice is reforestation, which should be carried out particularly in the areas where wood shortage is already felt.

9920

CSO: 3419/451

MADAGASCAR

BRIEFS

FRG AID--Joseph Bedo, minister of transport, supplies, and tourism, and Karl-Heinz Rouette, FRG ambassador to Madagascar, have announced this morning that the FRG will officially donate new material and equipment to the ports of Manakara and Mananjary tomorrow. The two men used the opportunity to praise the development of West German-Malagasy cooperation in the field of transport. Madagascar has also acquired 50 Magirus Deutz trucks from the FRG. The meeting ended with an expression of hope for fruitful cooperation between the two countries in other areas as well. [Summary] [Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 16 Feb 84]

CSO: 3419/466

MALAWI

BRIEFS

SEED CORN FOR MOZAMBIQUE--Malawi is to export half a million kwacha worth of corn seeds to Mozambique, according to the general manager of the National Seeds Company. He said already 500 tons of corn seeds were standing by to be dispatched to Mozambique. [Excerpts] [MB081912 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 8 Mar 84]

CSO: 3400/730

MACHEL GREET'S GDR'S ERICH HONECKER ON TREATY

AU291421 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 28 Feb 84 pp 1-2

[Text] Berlin (ADN)--Samora Moises Machel, marshal of the republic, president of the Mozambique Liberation Front [FRELIMO] Party, and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, has sent the following message to Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary:

On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between our states I convey our most cordial and fraternal greetings on behalf of the Frelimo Party, the Mozambique people, the government, as well as on my own behalf to you, the SED, the government, and the fraternal people of the GDR.

This date, the result of the traditional friendship ties which have always united us, stands indelibly for the friendship, militant solidarity, and the trust between our parties, peoples, and governments.

By celebrating this anniversary we honor the precious document which stimulates the fruitful bilateral cooperation between our two countries that today is developing at a swift pace. With the implementation of this treaty the defense of peace, national independence, and socialism is strengthened in our home countries.

We are aware of the importance which the prospering fraternal cooperation with other socialist countries--as the secure strategic pillar in achieving our economic independence and in building the material bases of the socialist society--has for our development.

The various fields of cooperation between the People's Republic of Mozambique and the GDR have developed comprehensively. Within this framework the economic and scientific-technological cooperation, which forms the solid and secure foundation for the further deepening of our friendship and militant solidarity is strengthening more and more.

On this occasion we want to express once again our sincere gratitude for the evidence of solidarity which the fraternal people of the GDR granted the Mozambique people in the most difficult moments of their struggle against underdevelopment and for building socialism.

We once again reaffirm our solidarity with the peace policy that is pursued by the GDR and that is a valuable contribution to preserving world peace, international detente, and security. This peace policy is an inspiration for our revolution and the struggle for peace in southern Africa.

Convinced that the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between our two countries is constantly expanded and strengthened, I ask you, dear Comrade Erich Honecker, to accept our fraternal greetings and wishes for health and a long life.

CSO: 3420/21

BRIEFS

ITALIAN RELIEF AID--An airplane carrying a donation of 45 tons of various goods, including seeds, clothes, and medicines, arrived on Sunday night in Maputo from Italy. The donation is for the victims of the floods which hit large areas in the south of the country. It will be recalled that yesterday, an important donation estimated at \$200,000 was delivered to the Mozambique Government by the Italian Government and several Italian organizations. That donation, which totals 30 tons in various products, consists of medicines, seeds, foodstuffs, blankets, shoes, and other goods. [Excerpt] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 21 Feb 84]

CZECHOSLOVAK AID--Vaclav Brezak, ambassador of the CSSR, today handed over to the Mozambique Association of Friendship and Solidarity with the Peoples [AMASP] a material gift worth about 250,000 korunas, which amounts to approximately a million meticals. The donation, which consists of candle-lamps, was received by (Abner Sansao Mutemba), secretary general of AMASP. [Summary] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1500 GMT 15 Feb 84]

EEC, HUNGARIAN DONATION--It has been announced that the EEC will give our country a \$400,000 donation to support the flood victims. The FRG will give seeds, and the plane which will bring the donation is expected in Maputo this week. The Urgency Collective set up in France has announced that it would donate 40 metric tons of seeds valued at 400,000 francs. Another donation comprised of medicine is expected soon from Hungary. It will be recalled that a number of countries and international organizations have been supporting flood victims with foodstuffs, medicines and seeds. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 15 Feb 84]

ROMANIAN AID--The Lutheran World Federation offered foodstuffs and medicine valued at \$10,000 yesterday in support of the flood victims in the south of our country. The Romanian Red Cross also offered medicine and blankets valued at \$50,000. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 17 Feb 84]

PORTUGUESE GRANT CREDIT--The Portuguese Government is going to grant Mozambique a line of credit for \$32 million. This was announced last Friday by the Portuguese news agency, citing Portugal's weekly newspaper, O JOURNAL. The source says that the granting of this credit to our country is part of the normalization of the relations of cooperation between

Portugal and Africa. According to the same source, the Portuguese prime minister, Mario Soares, has already announced his government's intentions to Jacinto Veloso, the minister in the presidency for economic affairs, and to President Samora Machel, when he met him in Moscow during the funeral of Yuriy Andropov. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 19 Feb 84]

PORTUGUESE COMMANDOS--A group of 16 former commandos of the Portuguese colonial army has requested a meeting with Zambezia Province leader Mario Machungo to express their desire to join the fight against the armed bandits. Mario Machungo hailed the spirit of patriotism expressed by those elements and stressed that their best contribution was their readiness to involve themselves in the fight against the armed bandits. The group of former commandos gave 3,000 metical for the flood victims. [Text] [MB031254 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 2 Mar 84]

CITIZENS REINTEGRATED IN SOFALA PROVINCE--In Nhamatanda district in Sofala Province, the process of integrating citizens released by the Mozambique Armed Forces in areas of military operations after the destruction of the camps of the armed bandits is under way. For further details, we are now establishing contact with Sofala. [Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] In the first phase, as they arrive, the released citizens are integrated into production centers with a view to enabling them to start a new, collective-style life, thereby creating conditions for improving their standard of living. The Nhamatanda district administrator, (Daniel Slaite), in an interview with Beira-based news media correspondents, said that in those places people are currently building better houses in response to the guidelines laid down by the Frelimo Party to increase the creation of village communes. Other details of this integration process are provided by (Daniel Salite), administrator of Nhamatanda district. [(Daniel Salite)] At this moment, we are creating conditions to permit us to create political and state structures and organize citizens so that they can produce, own their own farms, and build their own houses in response to the guidelines laid down by the Frelimo Party to organize the people in village communes. [Unidentified reporter] We, however, stress that the party and government plan for the district is to increase its ability to respond to our military victories in accordance with the district need. [End recording] [Text] [MB011322 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 1 Mar 84]

CSO: 3442/297

NAMIBIA

VPK VIEWS EXPLAINED IN PRESS CONFERENCE

Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 11 Feb 84 p 6

[Interview of 10 February with Multiparty Conference Members]

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, after its second meeting, the Multiparty Conference held a comprehensive press interview which was adjourned to 13 February while the various committies proceeded with their work. Some of the questions and answers appear in the following report.

Question: Is the Multiparty Conference (VPK) heading for an interim government for South-West Africa/Namibia?

Andreas Shipanga (SWAPO-Democrat): "Our discussions in Capetown dealt with peace, not only peace in South-West Africa/Namibia, but in all of southern Africa. Various methods were discussed for this objective. There are now many people in Africa and elsewhere who want to hear what the VPK has to say. At this stage any talk in connection with an interim government is pure speculation. The only plan which is really under discussion by South Africa and the Multiparty Conference is Resolution 435 of the Security Council."

Question: How does the VPK identify itself with the viewpoints assumed by the Administrator General in his statement of yesterday afternoon with respect to the present non-representative government which hopefully will be short lived?

Dirk Mudge (Democratic Turnhalle Alliance): "We are in agreement that South-West Africa/Namibia must be independent, but it does not matter if this will take place next week, next month or next year; we are not sure when. There will be elements wanting to oppose a constitution until an election or independence, but in our judgment this is wrong. However, the VPK's consideration of certain constitutional measures does not mean that it is setting itself up as an interim authority. It just wants to be ready to be utilized in any way possible."

Andreas Shipanga (SWAPO-D) "The VPK offers a good opportunity for exchanging thoughts on different views. In our conversations with Dr Crocker and

others they can see in which direction our thinking is going. I thought this was fruitful."

Attorney Eben van Zijl (Nationalist Party of South-West Africa): "When Dr Crocker met the VPK mission he recognized the status and the existence of the VPK." Question: Does this mean that people and authorities from abroad will be visiting Windhoek for conducting talks?

Chief Hans Diergaard (Liberation Front): "Nobody can ignore the VPK any more. The fact that Dr Crocker has given us a hearing is already a measure of recognition."

Question: "What is the implication of the prime minister's point of view that South Africa will no longer pull the cart alone?"

Mr Mudge (Democratic Turnhalle Alliance): "In the course of a recent talk I had here in the VPK and in my New Year's message I warned that in discussions such as these every country will be acting in its own interest and I do not blame them for this. This is the reality of politics. If South Africa has to make a choice it would serve its own interests. The same applies to the United States, Russia and any other country. We will be doing the same here in South-West Africa/Namibia. We cannot bank too much on the sympathies of others."

Justus Garoeb (Damara Council): "South Africa is just another party to the talks on South-West Africa/Namibia. It is unreasonable for South Africa to bear the financial burden of South-West Africa/Namibia alone."

South-West Africa/Namibia fits into an international framework and everybody involved in this process must provide a contribution."

Question: Does this mean that South Africa would be withdrawing its financial support to South-West Africa/Namibia?

Mr Mudge (Democratic Turnhalle Alliance): "South Africa would not necessarily cease its economic aid, but this could mean that South Africa will not want to bear the burden alone. We realize that South Africa is itself experiencing financial problems."

Mr Garoeb (Damara Council): "As I understand it, South Africa would not be withdrawing its financial help immediately, but would reduce it gradually. During such a period South-West Africa/Namibia would get the opportunity of exploiting new sources."

Question: Has a program for constitutional development been laid down within the country?

Shipanga (SWAPO-D): "We are not sitting around and wasting time. Although we have our objectives we are not inclined to preconceive things. But our discussions are covering a wide field--from the drought to the war. We are trying to arrive at decisions to the extent that this is possible. We may

make some mistakes, but we are serious in our attempts. We have objectives and we know that we have a shortage of time.

Attorney Eben van Zijl (Nationalist Party of South-West Africa): "From a basis of consensus we can go over to a majority vote for arriving at decisions in less time; however, how permanent can the solution arrived at along the way be? We realize the urgency of the situation; we realize the diversity of the problems which we have to deal with and we realize that we must bring together all reasonable people in South-West Africa/Namibia."

Question: Will the VPK make contact with SWAPO or will this be left to South Africa of the Administrator General?

Mr Garoeb (Damara Council): "At our initial conference we asserted that SWAPO is welcome to join the Multiparty Conference. We also stated our willingness to talk with SWAPO. The fact that SWAPO has failed to reply to this is not the fault of the VPK. The VPK is taking measures to get in touch with all interested parties."

Chief Diergaart (Liberation Front): "The VPK is willing to talk with everybody."

Question: Does the VPK agree to the coupling of the Cubans' withdrawal from Angola to the application of Security Council Resolution 435?

Mr Shipanga (SWAPO-D): "The spirit and the letter of R435 is alive, but new factors have come up and this includes the Cubans as well as other factors. Now this has no longer to do with just South-West Africa/Namibia but also takes in the problem of southern Africa. If necessary there will be an election, but those who arrange a referendum or a war must also be willing to bear the consequences of this. We have not yet come to the point of a referendum or an election. Everything depends on how matters in southern Africa develop.

Mr Mudge (Democratic Turnhalle Alliance): "If the Cubans leave Angola this could mean the immediate application of Resolution 435. I do not know of any other plan; however, Resolution 435 is 5 years old and not yet applied. We are not willing to wait 40 years."

Question: Doesn't it seem as though the VPK is planning an interim government, but does not want to talk about that?

Mr Mudge (Democratic Turnhalle Alliance): "Resolution 435 can be applied tomorrow but then the parties would be campaigning and would have to say what they stand for. But if this does not happen and a long interim phase were to follow then the present situation would not be acceptable to us. There are many alternatives to this, including an interim government. Another possibility is that the Administrator General would remain in control, but the system of government would change. We must be prepared for any eventuality."

Mr Garoeb (Damara Council): "We are seeing the future as a challenge now that the United Nations has been working with the South-West problem for decades and has not found an acceptable solution. Now the VPK is getting a chance to take part in the search for a solution. Just this is a challenge for us if we take into account the limited financial means and facilities available to the VPK.

7964

CSO: 3401/52

NAMIBIA

NAMIBIANS 'MUST STRIVE FOR THEIR OWN INTERESTS'

No Negotiations Without VPK

Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 27 Jan 84 p 6

[Editorial: "The Right Light"]

[Text] The initiative being taken by the Multiparty Conference (VPK) must be viewed under the right light by all those possibly involved in this matter.

1. The United States (and also the entire free world) will have to realize that the VPK cannot be used or misused for the short term interest of whosoever it may be.

Although South-West Africa/Namibia is not yet a free and independent nation it is far from being a nothing just for this very reason. It is a country in its own right with a population in its own right. Southwesterners are not an agglomeration of people without exactly the same needs, aspirations and rights as the people of any other country on earth.

Therefore when the members of the Multiparty Conference speak in the name of their people and their country they do not do so from the position of a bunch of beggars. They speak with the population of the country behind them.

Therefore it is a fact that no plan can succeed without the blessing of the country's population.

2. South Africa, in turn, must realize that its own attitude with respect to the South-West can only lead to something good to the extent that it is in line with the will and the wishes of the people of the South-West.

South Africa should not be using the VPK for its own objectives.

First of all the VPK will not allow this and secondly South Africa is not likely to ever try to do this. The reason is obvious and there is no need to expand on this.

The point is that both the free world and the South Africans can expect only the appropriate kind of support from the South-West in so far as the South-West can employ its freedom in its own right and in accordance with its own judgment.

Compulsory freedom (freedom bound to the freedom of another country) is degrading, something that runs counter to true freedom.

The South-West hates freedom with strings attached. This sort of freedom is in reality the enemy of the kind of freedom which every nation with self respect desires. Whoever impairs this country's freedom in this manner undermines democratic ideals and plays into the hands of our common enemy.

3. Southwesterners in turn must realize that our greatest support of democracy is not based on a desire for mere existence. We would be worth very little to the free world if we ourselves, in our own right, are not going to help with the music to which all must dance. As long as we sit and wait for others to provide the music our actual contribution will amount to zero.

Those Southwesterners who would want double loyalties are weakening not only our ranks in the South-West, but are also failing to serve the greater whole.

Our first task is facing us right here and not south of the Orange River and not north of the Kunene River. Nor does it lie in the environs of Washington or of Moscow.

4. It is against this background that the attitude of the VPK must be understood. It does not wish to be an extension of South African diplomacy in Capetown and likewise it should not be a tool of the United States.

The VPK should discuss matters with South Africa, because it wields authority over the South-West and it should do likewise with the United States, because it plays a key role in the broader African context.

It is obvious that the VPK should keep on talking with both of these two countries, because they are advocates of a peaceful solution of our problems plus the fact that everybody is opposed to Marxism.

However, whoever wants the VPK to be "popular" is missing the point. The VPK will not exchange its birthright for a mess of political pottage.

Importance of VPK

Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 30 Jan 84 p 6

[Editorial: [A Greater Task"]

[Text] The obvious thing has happened; the Multiparty Conference (VPK) has been given due recognition by both the South African government and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker.

It would have been dangerous for South Africa and the United States to consider decisions for a solution without a voice from the Southwesterners. Therefore the logical thing to do was to accept the VPK's offer to make its contribution.

This acceptance of a role for the VPK naturally places immediately a great deal of responsibility on the shoulders of its members.

Suddenly the time for a calm contemplation about structures for an interim period has gone. The commitment of negotiating has sprung up almost overnight alongside the task of contemplating.

Consequently, along with its other tasks, the VPK will have to get to work with current international matters which affect the South-West.

The inhabitants of the South-West will certainly expect no less than this from their leaders in the Multiparty Conference. Whereas the opportunity has now evidently arisen the VPK should not spare any efforts. It has to cope with a growing task which will be attaining greater dimensions; moreover, this will have to be fit in with the original definition of assignment of this organization.

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CSO: 3401/52

NAMIBIA

EXTENSION OF POWER SUPPLY LINES ANNOUNCED

Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 1 Feb 84 p 2

[Text] About 10 million rand will be spent next year by Swawek [South-West Africa Power Generating Co] in the southern area of South-West Africa/Namibia to supply power to places such as Stampriet, Gochas and Luderitz. Farmers along the route will also be using SWAWEK's power.

The information about SWAWEK's plans was given to Windhoek by the company's managing director, Mr Polla Brand, after the last junction for the power supply was cut through last week at Stampriet in the course of a meeting between him and the farmers.

Mr Brand pointed out that this does not entail just the power supply, but also the personnel who will be temporarily assigned to the south for the construction of the various lines. For example 80 persons will be involved where the power line is to be built from Rosh Pinah to Luderitz. These are the people who will be stimulating general trade in the south.

When Mr Brand provided the information on the power supply he said that a line to Aranos was built last year. The cost to SWAWEK and the central government for this project is high.

Now Stampriet has also asked for power along this line, while an organization like the South-West Africa Broadcasting Corporation is also interested in power supply.

Those who are now asking for power are the people of Stampriet and the farmers along the route to Aranos. There is the possibility that Gochas and even the farmers in the Auob Valley will also be served.

According to Mr Brand the cost for building this line has ran up to 2 million rand without counting the cost for the farmers along the route. When provisions are made for farmers and other users the cost can run up to 3 million rand.

He said that the construction work on the line will start in March and he hopes the work will be finished before year's end.

Mr Brand said that the construction work for the power line from Rosh Pinah to Luderitz is to start on Monday. He hopes that the project will be completed by August. The project will cost 5.6 million rand.

In March work will also start on a power line from Karasburg going over to Grunau and Ai-Ais. This project will cost 1.2 million rand.

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CSO: 3401/52

NAMIBIA

BRIEFS

WORLD BANK REPRESENTATIVE INVITED--A representative of the World Bank has been invited to attend a socio-economic conference sponsored by Administrator General Willie van Niekerk and to take place in the early part of May. These deliberations will follow similar deliberations held in 1982. Yesterday, in the course of a press conference of the Namibia Institute for Economic Affairs, its president, Mr Robby Myburg, said that the World Bank had detailed knowledge of economic situations in developing countries. This will be the ideal institution for conducting an inquiry on how matters ought to be conducted in South-West Africa/Namibia. In reviewing the institute's activities and how it sees the economy in South-West Africa/Namibia the statement was made that on 27 October of last year interested people in the private sector discussed the possibility of subsequent deliberations with a representative of the administrator in general. In the report the view was expressed that in the coming deliberations there should be no aggressive attitudes and reproaches between state and private sector groups. Moreover there ought to be evidence of candor and understanding taking the shortcomings of the past as lessons for the future. For the purpose of participating in the deliberations in a constructive manner all sort of information should be made available to all parties. In connection with this the administrator general also announced that the information will be freely available. Mr Myburg added that the deliberations ought to be regarded as an economic seminar for South-West Africa/Namibia and that the full spectrum of knowhow in the country shall be employed for this purpose. [Text] [Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 3 Feb 84 p 3] 7964

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS FOR TOIVO--An official spokesman in Windhoek says travel documents have been issued to the founding member of SWAPO, Mr Herman Toivo ya Toivo, who was released in South-West Africa last week. The spokesman says a passport has not been issued, in view of the urgency of Mr ya Toivo's application, but that the documents will enable him to visit all the countries he listed on his application. Earlier it was reported that Mr ya Toivo and a number of SWAPO's executive members in South-West Africa were intending meeting SWAPO's president, Mr Sam Nujoma, at an undisclosed venue in Africa later this week. According to the report, the meeting had been requested by Nujoma, and would take place in Lusaka. [Text] [MB081737 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 8 Mar 84]

PLANS FOR OWN STEEL INDUSTRY SAID HEADED FOR DISASTER

Munich SUEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 6 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by Stefan Klein: "A Place for a White Elephant"]

[Text] Nigeria: A developing country's fatal ambition. The plan to build its own steel industry appears to be headed more and more toward failure as far as this West African state is concerned.

Ajaokuta, February--At first sight it looks like an imposing huge construction site. Huge cranes, powerful concrete foundations, steel girders reaching skyward skeleton-like; The technology of the 20th century is making headway with full force along the lower Niger. A bush-savanna region is being turned into a modern industrial complex here according to all rules of modern engineering on an area of 10 square kilometers. Ajaokuta, the name of a small, once isolated little fishing village on the Niger, is shortly to signify a gigantic steel and rolling mill, one of the biggest in the world.

As one takes a closer look at the situation one however begins to entertain the very first few doubts as to whether Nigerians will ever forge and roll steel in Ajaokuta. The fact is that work is not in full swing at all at this huge construction site. Two of the total of three building blocks make a rather deserted impression; nothing is stirring there and everything is almost deathly quiet. The two French construction firms of Dumez and Fougerolle, which are supposed to be operating here, have suspended their work until further notice. In the third construction lot, where JBN (Julius Berger Nigeria), an affiliate of the German firm of "Bilfinger und Berger Bau AG" [Incorporated], is in charge, work is still being done but even there the end is in sight. Reason: Lack of money.

An Old Debt Settled

The loan granted by bank consortiums to finance this big project has been mostly used up already. Due to unforeseen additional work, the originally agreed upon project costs rose so much that voluminous follow-up financing is becoming necessary--if this superplant is not to go down in history as being unfinished. While the French watched their money run out already more than 2 months ago, JBN still has just about DM100 million left over from the

contract amount which was agreed upon in 1980 at a figure of DM1.2 billion. Converted into working hours, this gives us a deadline of 3-4 months. "Something has to happen now," says JBN boss Richter, "if there is no follow-up financing by May, the situation will be critical."

Considering the fact that the economic situation at this time is in rather bad shape, Nigeria will probably find it difficult to persuade the banks to replenish the loan--especially since this involves hefty sums. JBN alone will need another DM600 million to be able to execute the remaining third of the contract. And so one at least cannot rule out the possibility that the name of Ajaokuta will some day be connected with another development ruin in the Third World. But if the plant should ever be finished, it might easily happen that it will develop into a "white elephant," a monster which gobbles up lots of money and which at best simulates usefulness.

Some of Potemkin's compatriots are at any rate involved in this: the Russian state trade enterprise Tiaypromeksport (Heavy Industry Export) is responsible for overall planning, for the delivery and assembly of the steel structure and for the machinery, as well as the commissioning of the steel mill as such. With the award of this lucrative contract to the Russians, who are the project managers in Ajaokuta, the Nigerians managed to settle an old debt which dates back to the days of the civil war. In smashing the Biafra secession, the central government got the kind of military aid from the Soviets which it had been hoping to get from the West in vain. The opportunity to reciprocate arose during the 1970's when, along with the oil boom, a plan was hatched to use the abundantly flowing petrodollars to build a Nigerian steel industry.

Two integrated smelter and rolling mills as well as three pure rolling mills were to extricate this West African country--which wanted to advance from an agricultural state to an industrial state--from dependence on expensive imported steel and to help meet the constantly growing domestic requirements. A beautiful dream, if it were to come true; but in the meantime it looks much more like a nightmare because, except for Ajaokuta, the Nigerian steel mill group is complete. The tie-in of the five plants in itself is already highly problematical: The smelter in Warri, which has been producing since November 1981, is to supply the three rolling mills in Oshogbo, Katsina, and Jos which are partly hundreds of kilometers away from each other. This decentralization, which was ordered for political reasons, will not only increase the transportation costs but will also mean that the highway network will gradually be wrecked by the heavy steel transport vehicles.

For the time being, of course, there is not much to be transported. The highly modern, computer-controlled plant in Warri, which was built by a consortium of Western European firms and where the steel is obtained directly from ore (not indirectly via pig iron from the blast furnace), simply cannot be made to run in high gear. Designed for an annual capacity of one million tons of steel, Warri last year did not even meet the expectations which had realistically been reduced to one half. After 12 months, it managed to come out with just barely 140,000 tons. Of that amount, 30,000 tons were rolled in Warri (capacity: 330,000 tons) and 110,000 tons were distributed to Katsina, Jos, and Oshogbo where about six times that quantity could be processed.

There are many reasons why the "Rolls-Royce among steel mills" (according to a foreign expert) reveals such weaknesses. Here is the most important one: The many power failures do not permit continuous production. Although power supply problems were foreseeable, no separate power plant was built. The idea now is to make up for that omission. The contract for a 456-Megawatt power plant has already been awarded to the Electrical Concern of BBC (Brown Boveri & Cie.) in Mannheim. But for the time being, that contract is not being executed. Here is why: The Hermes-Kreditversicherungs AG [Export Credit Guarantee Company, Incorporated], which, because of Nigeria's economic difficulties in import-export deals with German firms, no longer provides any guarantees, is not making any exceptions in this case either--at any rate, not so far.

Hopes are now concentrated on a successful conclusion of Nigeria's negotiations with the IMF for a \$2-billion loan, "because then," says a European steel expert, "Hermes would presumably again provide guarantees and the power plant could be built in Warri." It would then be possible to guarantee at least a regulated production effort although the costs will probably remain unchanged and high: 1 ton of Warri steel is twice as expensive as on the world market. That is not astonishing if one for example looks at the personnel costs. According to the plan, the plant, which in Europe could be run with 2,000 men, was to have a work force of 4,500--and today the plant has 9,000 workers. That is by far too much even for African wages.

In addition there are the foreign-exchange-devouring imports because both scrap and iron ore must be imported. (There is no need for coal in this method.) Because the idea was to put the plant there as quickly as possible obviously for prestige reasons instead--as would have been sensible--of first opening up the Nigerian ore deposits, the raw material has to be imported from Brazil, Liberia, and later from Guinea, where Nigeria has acquired a 40-percent share in a mine. If the plant is ever to achieve an annual output of 1 million tons, then it would have to import the rather considerable quantity of 1.5 million tons of iron ore and 200,000 tons of scrap for this purpose.

A Disastrous Alliance

The entire story in Ajaokuta however becomes even more absurd--assuming that steel is ever to be produced there. The plant the Russians put there is of the conventional type: Pig iron production by means of smelting in the blast furnace, liquid steel production in three converters by means of the traditional oxygen blowing method; much mechanical stuff, little electronics. That would not even have to be a disadvantage; on the contrary: For the Nigerians, who have no experience in steel production, such a plant is certainly easier to master and to maintain than the plant in Warri. Here is the only trouble: Coal is needed for Ajaokuta steel. There is of course some coal in Nigeria but it is not of the required quality. Without imported coal the plant cannot operate.

This introduces not only an additional financial burden but also raises the transportation question. That question had been answered once before during the 1970's; at that time, the old colonial railroad running from Port Harcourt to Makurdi was to be modernized and a branch was to be built to Ajaokuta.

That would have involved direct, fast coal shipment from the port to the steel mill. In the meantime, these plans however have been shelved due to money shortage. Only the big bridge across the Niger near Ajaokuta, which was to connect the steel complex to the rail line, is being built. Although it will not fulfill any purpose in the foreseeable future, the German construction firm of Berger keeps working on the project because construction work allegedly had progressed too far when the railroad plans were filed away. The cost: More than DM200 million.

The Nigerians' mania for prestige and the pursuit of profits on the part of foreign firms, both Western and Eastern, entered into a disastrous alliance in this country, as pointed up by the example of the steel industry. A steel mill which depends extensively on expensive imports is some day supposed to put out 5.2 million tons of steel per year which could be purchased on the world market at half or even one-third of the price. Not even the sequence in the entire construction effort makes any sense: The blast furnace, on which work should have started, is far from completion whereas two out of the four mill trains are ready for production. When the precision steel mill train was opened half a year ago, they rolled steel which had been imported from the FRG.

To give the rollers in Ajaokuta something to do at last and to prevent more and more dust and cobwebs from settling down, steel bars are to be delivered from Warri at the start of production. But even that cannot be accomplished without difficulties. In Warri, the steel has an edge length of 120 millimeters, as customary in the West. Ajaokuta however runs by the Eastern standard: 100 millimeters. Real precision work.

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CSO: 3420/15

NIGERIA

FINANCIAL CIRCLES VIEW AUSTERITY MEASURES

Paris LE MONDE in French 17 Jan 84 p 3

[Article by Luarent Zecchini: "Austerity Measures Arouse Skepticism in Financial Circles"]

[Text] The Nigerian authorities, who were confronted by a seriously deteriorating economic situation when they took office, have recently taken strict measures to control transactions in foreign currency and to evaluate precisely their total short-term debts related to payment arrears.

For several months Lagos has been negotiating with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to obtain a rescheduling of its external debt. Although Nigeria's total debt has not yet surpassed the permissible limits (\$15 billion) because of its potential financial abilities, that is, its oil resources, the short-term debt has reached a critical level. Payment arrears (up to 15 months late) are about \$5 billion.

At the same time Nigerian authorities are negotiating with the IMF to obtain a loan of a little over \$2 billion. A meeting of both sides, which was to have taken place 16 January, was postponed to a later date at Nigeria's request. Lagos is also negotiating with the major worldwide export guarantee companies to reschedule its payment arrears. The Central Bank of Nigeria sent a memorandum to all importers outlining various measures having a common denominator of reducing imports and the outflow of foreign currency.*

These austerity measures illustrate Nigeria's desire to solve its own problems until this difficult period is over. Before 23 January importers are to submit a detailed list of all payment arrears due as of 31 December 1983 to their foreign suppliers. In addition, importers must from now on make a preliminary deposit--

* These measures, although technical in nature, are rather important for France, which is well represented in Nigeria. France is Nigeria's second largest importer of crude (Nigeria is our second largest supplier of oil) and is Nigeria's fourth largest economic provider. About 170 French companies are located in this country and some of them are completely in charge of projects or are heavily involved in large-scale construction, such as the Lagos subway, the new federal capital in Abuja or the Adjaokuda steel works.

that varies from 50 to 250 percent of the value of the merchandise--when they request import authorization from the Central Bank. This measure will undoubtedly bother the companies located in Nigeria because it will significantly increase the length of time that their funds are frozen. The exemption from the preliminary payment, which until now had applied to importers with a payment deadline of over 180 days (a deadline granted by the exporter), has been eliminated.

Exchange Controls

Henceforth, commercial banks and investment banks will be responsible for issuing the import authorizations (and therefore for authorizing the outflow of foreign currency). These authorizations are called "form M" for transactions involving the private sector and quasi-state organizations. The Central Bank, which previously had this responsibility, will be limited to issuing these authorizations for the contracts going through the federal government and the governments of the 19 states. One total annual sum of foreign currency will be allocated to each of the banks, and they can use this to finance imports and "invisibles" (dividends or trip allowances). However, no bank can surpass a monthly ceiling of one-twelfth of the total allocation.

The administration of the Central Bank also drew up a list of import priorities. Of most importance are: 1) indispensable raw materials 2) spare parts 3) basic foodstuffs. There are also some measures which will affect individuals: trip allowances in foreign currency decreases from 500 to 100 nairas* per year, and allowances for business trips have been eliminated "until further notice." Except in emergencies, foreign currency is no longer authorized to be sent abroad for medical care. Students wishing to study abroad will no longer be allowed to take out currency. (This measure does not apply to those already abroad.)

The Central Bank has handed over some of its prerogatives to the commercial banks and investment banks because it had reached a point of almost total inefficiency because of widespread corruption. Bankers will now be subject to these same pressures and in Nigeria pressures are not resisted above a certain amount of nairas...

In a classic economy, the goal of implementing such a system is to give exports a "push." In Nigeria's case these measures will not work because 90 percent of export receipts come from petroleum. In financial circles in Lagos it is generally thought that this system will at first paralyze activity a bit more and aggravate the financial situation of firms located in Nigeria. After this it is a good bet that the "D system" of corruption will again take over.

* 1 naira = 11.75 French francs

NECESSITY FORCED MOZAMBIQUE INTO TALKS WITH SA

AB081222 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The diplomatic contact between Mozambique and South Africa has, no doubt, generated a lot of controversy among progressive African states that Mozambique has even been silently accused of treachery to the African cause. [as heard] Critics of the dialogue are at pains to see the rationale behind any negotiation with racist South Africa in view of her avowed determination to maintain apartheid as a way of life. They contend that since the racists have institutionalized the dehumanization and brutalization of Africans as a system of government, there can be no negotiation with such a regime until her repudiation of such an inhuman practice.

This argument gains more credence when it is noted that the racist troops launched a vicious and unprovoked attack on neighboring Angola, occupying her territory for months before going into negotiation with Mozambique. However, a careful look at the present socioeconomic spectrum of Mozambique would show that the days of idealism are over. For if Mozambique must survive as a stable and reliable political entity, then a more realistic approach must be adopted to the sensitivity and rather emotional relationship with South Africa. It is not enough for African countries which are far off from the scene of the liberation struggle, to cry foul any time one of the frontline states decides to resolve some problems with South Africa. For it is only these states that can appreciate the economic and political destabilization game that South Africa has brought on them. She has done everything to undermine the sovereignty of these states, especially Mozambique and Angola. But they still remain steadfast to the African cause and that is the total eradication of colonialism and racism from the continent. They have quietly borne all the necessary sacrifices to the liberation struggle to the detriment of their own economy. They have also accommodated refugees from the enclave and are still providing bases for the liberation movements to operate. And this has led to the devastation of their villages by the South African Army while pursuing these refugees and liberation forces in her genocidal war against the African people.

At present, the food situation in Mozambique is pathetic. Apart from the drought, sabotage of crops and transport by South African-backed rebels has made farmers unwilling to farm, thereby aggravating the situation. Also, a

severe shortage of skilled manpower has made the country to depend more on external sources which has made her a susceptible prey to the economic bid of South Africa.

Since most African countries are reluctant to pay their annual dues to the organization of African countries and contribute substantially to the liberation movement fund, it stands to reason that Mozambique must look for a way to get out of her present economic quagmire. The only way that Mozambique and Angola could shun South Africa is for the OAU to come to their aid so that their independence would not be a sham.

CSO: 3400/732

BRIEFS

RETIREMENT OF CORRUPT OFFICERS--THE Head of State Major-General Muhammadu Buhari said in Lagos yesterday that the retirement of discredited and dishonest civil servants would be a continuous exercise. Major-General Buhari who was speaking when members of the Federal Public Service Commission called on him at Dodan Barracks, also said that any officer involved in fraud would not be allowed to remain in the service. He said that public officers without faith in the system should be thrown out, adding that the Federal Military Government was concerned about the quality of service of public officers. The head of state regretted that the best traditions of the civil service had been eroded by the politicians. The chairman of the commission, Alhaji Bagudu Shettima, had told the head of state that inadequate funding affected the recruitment of Nigerians abroad. Also yesterday the head of state received a delegation of the Oyo State Council of Chiefs at Dodan Barracks. Major-General Buhari told them that the government would continue to take the advice of traditional rulers because of their close relationship with the ordinary people. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 31 Jan 84 p 1]

ORGANIZATIONS DISBANDED IN BAUCHI--THE Military Governor of Bauchi State, Brigadier Sani M. Sami, has disbanded the state Transport Corporation, the Directorate of the Institute for Higher Education and the Livestock and Meat Authority. The governor in a letter to the Secretary to the Military Government, directed the function of the institute for Higher Education be handed over to the department of higher education in the Ministry of Education. The governor also directed that arrangement be made by the Secretary, Alhaji M. M. Manshanu, to take stock of assets and liabilities of the organisations and to make appropriate redeployment of staff of the three affected organisations. Meanwhile, directors have been appointed for some newly created departments. They are Alhaji M. M. Mohammed (Lands and Survey); Alhaji A. Mahmud (Scholarship) and Alhaji Bello Babajo (Parastatals). [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 1 Feb 84 p 9]

MUSLIM ASSOCIATION COMMENDS SOKOTO--THE Muslim Corpers Association of Nigeria in Sokoto State has commended Sokoto State Government for not participating in this year's Argungu Fishing and Cultural Festival due to its lean purse. In a statement jointly signed by the association's secretary, Abubakar Abbas and its public relation officer, Malam Muhammed Sani Jada, discribed it as a wise decision, taking at the right time. The association added that they are totally against the re-introduction of community tax in any part of the country

which it said would dash the hope of the masses in the new administration.
[Adebisi Adekunle] [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 2 Feb 84 p 11]

CONTINUED RELIGIOUS FREEDOM--RELIGIOUS freedom would continue to be guaranteed if it was not at the expense of the overall security of the country, the Head of State, Major-General Muhammadu Buhari has said. He told a delegation of the Christian Council of Nigerian (CCN) at Dodan Barracks, Lagos on Wednesday, that religious citizens were more disciplined and useful to the society. Citing the religious riots of Kano and Maiduguri, he warned that the Federal Military Government would not allow such abuse anymore. General Buhari also expressed concern about the falling standard of education in the country. He assured the delegation that their proposals for improving the situation would be looked into. The delegation had presented a memorandum to the Head of State in which they suggested ways of improving the standard of education and reviving the nation's economy. In the memorandum, the council also recommended ways of tackling crime, religious fanaticism and moral delinquency in the society. The seven-man delegation led by the Anglican Bishop of Lagos, the Reverend F. O. Segun, offered prayers for the success of the new administration. [Nkem Agetua] [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 3 Feb 84 pp 1, 13]

RELIGIOUS BODIES WARNED--PLATEAU State Government will deal ruthlessly with a religious organisation that threatens the peaceful co-existence of the people in the state, the Military Governor, Navy Captain Samuel B. Atukum, has warned. In a speech at the silver jubilee celebration of the Theological College of Northern Nigeria, (TCNN) Bukuru, read on his behalf by Wing Commander J. Akawo, the governor said while the government guaranteed freedom of worship, it could not fold its arms over the "mischievous activities" of some religious bodies. He said it was a matter of serious concern that religion, which was supposed to be a rallying point of ethnic and cultural harmony, had "dangerously become a springboard for fundamental outbursts and mischief making" to the point of intolerance. The government, he said, would examine ways of helping all religious organisations in the state within limited available resources. He appealed to religious bodies in the state to intensify efforts in areas of health services, adult education and moral instruction. [Andrew Orolua] [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 9 Feb 84 p 16]

REPATRIATION OF ALIENS--Akure, Mar 8 (NAN)--About 500 illegal immigrants in Ondo State were repatriated in the last five months, the state's assistant director of immigration, Akin Adebari, said in Akure yesterday. Mr Adebari told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that most of the immigrants were from neighbouring ECOWAS states. He said that about 5,000 aliens acquired resident permits in the state, adding that those whose permits were not renewed had left the country. The assistant director said that the number of alien teachers requesting to renew their permits had reduced in the last three months. [Text] [ABO81247 Lagos NAN in English 1226 GMT 8 Mar 84]

AWOLOWO REGRETS FRIENDS' DETENTION--The Nigerian nationalist and leader of the proscribed Unity Party of Nigeria [UPN2, Chief Obafemi Awolowo, is 75 today. Chief Awolowo, who was the first premier of the defunct Western Nigeria and the opposition leader at the federal level, said there would

be no celebration of the birthday anniversary. In a statement, he explained that this was because practically all the persons, young and old, whose friendship and association he cherished, are in detention or under threat detention. Chief Awolowo said he would, however, be at home to friends and well-wishers throughout today. [Text] [AB061158 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Mar 84]

CSO: 3400/732

BRIEFS

OIL EXPORTATION AGREEMENT SIGNED--The Ministry of Mineral and Water Development and a French oil exploration company, ELF, this afternoon signed an agreement on oil exploration in the SDR, at the ministry headquarters. The agreement, which was signed by a representative of the oil company and the SDR minister for mineral and water development, Challe Colonel Ahmed Mohamed Farrah, will grant the French company the right to explore oil in the SDR in 1984 in an area covering 8,655 sq km east of Mogadishu. Speaking at the signing of the agreement, the minister said [words indistinct]. Challe Ahmed hailed the bilateral talks existing between France and the SDR. The reception was attended by other senior officials from the ministry. [Text]
[EA042110 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 2045 GMT 3 Mar 84 NA3]

CSO: 3403/11

PROLIFERATION OF OPPOSITION GROUPS NOTED

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English 18 Jan 84 p 8

[Text]

SOUTH AFRICA: OPPOSITION POLITICS. A major row has broken out in South Africa's most recently formed opposition group, the *United Democratic Front* (UDF), an umbrella organisation for a large number of political, academic and trade union bodies opposed to apartheid and the new constitution. It draws its membership from all racial groups and estimates that it has 2m affiliates. After white voters approved the constitutional proposals in the November referendum, the UDF failed to agree on what its line should be for its policy meeting in Port Elizabeth at the end of December. The national executive, which is due to meet at the end of this month, is supposed to come up with a final decision.

Nasluoa Lekota, the UDF publicity secretary, says that the hesitation has been caused by the decision of the *Coloured Labour Party* (LP) to call for an election to the separate Coloured "parliament" under the constitutional plan. "The Indian parties seem destined to go for an election as well", he adds, hinting that this might influence the UDF stance. But neither the LP nor the *South African Indian Council* (SAIC) are affiliates of the UDF; they are bodies whose prominence lies largely in the fact that they are "recognised" by the government because of their cooperative attitude. They have minority support among the communities they are supposed to represent - hence the decision this month by the LP to opt for direct elections to the new parliament rather than putting the constitutional plan before the Coloured population for approval in a referendum. LP leader **Allan Hendrickse** is said to have argued that direct elections would produce a result, however small the number of those prepared to register for voting, whereas a referendum might have revealed that the majority of Coloureds reject the constitutional arrangements. Similarly, the *National People's Party* (NPP) - the majority group in the SAIC - will go for direct elections when it meets later this month, despite its decision a year ago to opt for a referendum.

In fact, the SAIC is scarcely representative: only 10.5% of the Indians on the voting register voted in the 1981 elections of council members. When prime minister **Botha** addressed a meeting organised by SAIC chairman **Amichand Rajbansi** in Durban after the white referendum, the demonstrators against the constitution outside the hall were much more numerous than the audience inside. Even before the referendum result last year, the LP's decision to cooperate with Pretoria was described as "reeking with opportunism" by the well-known Coloured churchman, **Alan Boesak**. Meetings organised by the LP leadership broke up in violence or had to be cancelled or postponed. After the 1983 LP Congress, Boesak and his supporters joined the new UDF. But according to the ANC, it was the TIC (representing the anti-SAIC elements of the Indian community as a whole) which decided to set up a steering committee to create the UDF in order to campaign against the constitutional proposals.

The UDF has now been described as the "Charter movement" and even as the ANC (outlawed for over 20 years) in a new guise.

Although this is an enormous exaggeration, the UDF named as its patrons some of the most famous ANC personalities, including Nelson Mandela. And unlike other parties, its appearance was quietly welcomed by the exiled ANC leadership. In South Africa, UDF general secretary Popo Molefe naturally denied any links with the ANC, but he spoke as recently as November about the LP and the SAIC in terms identical to the ANC by calling them "puppets who do not have the support of the people". The UDF showed its strength by campaigning against the municipal elections in Soweto, which were billed as part of Pretoria's "reforms", with the result that the turnout was only 10% - about half of the percentage recorded in black townships where the UDF did not campaign.

True to form the appearance of the UDF was paralleled by the formation of the *National Forum* (NF), spearheaded by the *Azanian People's Organisation* (AZAPO) which rejects white participation. (The UDF, like the ANC, is non-racial). The NF is reminiscent of the *Pan Africanist Congress*, which denounced the "European communists" allegedly manipulating the ANC leadership. But the NF collaborates with components of the UDF in political action, and it is opposing the LP and SAIC cooperation with the constitutional plan. If the UDF continues to hesitate, the NF will gain, giving a boost to the black consciousness-type philosophy at the expense of non-racial radicalism and, in the longer-term, the ANC ●

CSO: 3400/717

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

TELEPHONE TAPPING CONFIRMED--Some telephones are tapped. That has been confirmed by Minister of Posts and Telecommunications Lapa Munnik. Answering a question in parliament, he said his department does not keep a list of the names of subscribers whose phones are tapped. He gave no other details. [Text] [MB021630 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 2 Mar 84]

ARMSCOR AT CHILEAN AIR SHOW--Armaments Development and Production Corporation [ARMSCOR] has announced that it will be exhibiting at an international air show, FIDA 84, in the Chilean capital, Santiago, from today until next Friday. It is the first show that ARMSCOR is taking part in since the exhibition of its weapons at the EXPO 82 show in Athens. The chairman of ARMSCOR, Commandant (Piet Marais), is in personal command of the South African exhibition in Santiago. Commandant (Marais) says in a statement that the purpose of ARMSCOR's participation is to secure ARMSCOR's foothold in the international armaments market. The emphasis at the ARMSCOR exhibit this year will be on the extremely advanced Kukri air-to-air missile system, which has a unique helmet-mounted sight. Using the visor, the aircraft pilot merely looks through the sight at the target to take aim. The international armaments press says South Africa is at least 10 years ahead of Europe in this field. Commandant (Marais) says South Africa is the first country in the world to apply this concept to supersonic aircraft. [Text] [MB021622 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 2 Mar 84]

CSO: 3400/715

SAP IMPLEMENTATION REPORTEDLY ONLY CURE FOR NATION'S ECONOMIC ILLS

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 21 Feb 84 p 1

[Article by Mkumbwa Ally]

[Excerpt]

THE MINISTER of State for Planning and Economic Affairs, Ndugu Kighoma Malima, yesterday restated that vigorous implementation of the Structural Adjustment Plan (SAP) was the only viable prescription for the country's economic ills.

Professor Malima rejected alternative remedies, such as resorting to the capitalist mode of resource allocation which, he said, were being advocated by "some foreign apologists and their domestic imitators".

Such proposals were not only misguided but also a "misplaced illusion", he said.

Opening a two-day national workshop on economic stabilization policies at the Kilimanjaro Hotel in Dar es Salaam, the Minister said implementation of SAP, which started in 1982/83 and running for three years, had recorded tangible achievements despite the persistent foreign exchange scarcity.

He pointed out that the inflation rate had been contained at 25 to 30 per cent annually for the past three years while foodstuff prices remained stable despite a 30 per cent devaluation of the shilling.

The increase in Government expenditure was generally below the rate of inflation, he explained, adding that monetary expansion had been stabilized at between 15 to 20 per cent.

Social services, including education and health, had continued against the rough

economic background. The performance "gives us the energy, courage and determination to press forward with the adjustment and stabilization efforts", he said.

Emphasising that there were no simple or readily available solutions to the economic crisis, Professor Kighoma Malima told the workshop that association of the problems with the ideological direction was wrong because countries with different ideological persuasion were equally affected.

"It just cannot be, by any stretch of imagination, that all developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America have connived since 1980 to mismanage their economies", he said.

The Minister said there was no question as to the workability of SAP. What was needed was rectification of planning deficiencies and practical measures to bring its objectives to fruition.

He stressed total mobilisation of financial, material and human resources to maximize the macro and sectoral targets projected under the adjustment plan.

The three dimensional plan is geared towards increased agricultural and industrial production, promotion of inward looking production techniques and institution of consumption habits sustainable by domestic production and incomes.

MINISTER SALIM SAYS ZANZIBAR'S IDENTITY CANNOT BE DESTROYED

Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 18 Mar 84 p 3

[Excerpt] TANZANIA has strongly rejected suggestions that the recent leadership changes in Zanzibar were prompted by the Mainland's determination to change the Government on the Isles.

Foreign Affairs Minister Salim Ahmed Salim said yesterday in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) in London that suggestions that the former Vice-President of Tanzania and President of Zanzibar, Ndugu Aboud Jumbe Mwinyi, had resigned because of pressure from the Mainland were "utter nonsense."

Ndugu Salim said in the interview monitored by radio Tanzania that Alhaj Jumbe had stepped down during the recent Party National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting held in Dodoma because he was convinced it was the most appropriate step, considering the debate there.

Ndugu Jumbe offered to step down from all leadership positions in the Party and Government on January 29 and Ali Hassan Mwinyi was elected interim Isles leader.

The Minister said the discussions, which led to Ndugu Jumbe's resignation were almost exclusively monopolised by the Zanzibaris who wanted to ensure that the interest of Zanzibar were properly protected both in the context of Zanzibar itself and in the context of the Union.

The Minister said one thing which was most evident during the discussions was the desire among the Zanzibaris to ensure democratic reforms in the country, and to bring to an end the type of society where there was absolute disregard for fundamental freedoms.

Ndugu Salim said there was no discussion in Dodoma about attempts to break the Union.

"The issue was the type of relationship between the Mainland and Zanzibar within the context of the Union.

"The second major issue was the type of society prevailing in Zanzibar," he emphasized.

He said there were some elements within the Zanzibar leadership who did not approve of some of the democratic changes that had been taking place both in the Party and Government.

One of the complaints in Zanzibar, he said, was that [word illegible] last year's debate on proposals to amend the constitutions of the United Republic and that of the Zanzibar Revolutionary Government, Zanzibaris were not given the opportunity or were not encouraged to express their views and opinions about the Constitution of Zanzibar.

Rejecting a suggestion that the Union was threatening the independence of Zanzibar, Ndugu Salim explained that the independence of Zanzibar and Tanganyika as two sovereign states ceased to exist the day the Union of the two countries came into being. But under special provisions, Zanzibar's special identity has been assured, he added.

The Minister said as a Zanzibari and Tanzanian he had no fear whatsoever of any attempt on the part of anybody to destroy the identity of Zanzibar.

He said the identity of Zanzibar cannot be destroyed because the country's Consitution did not empower anyone on the Mainland to take arbitrary decisions in so far as the welfare of Zanzibar was concerned.

He said the Constitution provides that for any major changes to be approved, a two-thirds majority of the Mainland and of Zanzibar must be obtained, the preponderant population size of the Mainland notwithstanding.

CSO: 3400/710

BRIEFS

ROADS FOR KIGOMA--KIGOMA Region is determined to end its isolation by building two major roads aimed at easing communication problems, the Regional Commissioner, Ndugu Christopher Liundi, said here recently. Briefing reporters on the region's development programme, Ndugu Liundi said studies have already been made on two major roads linking Kigoma with Tabora and Kasanga, the latter being a small port of Lake Tanganyika's southern coast. The Kasanga area is inaccessible except by Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) boats or ships plying on the lake. Ndugu Liundi said the Kigoma-Tabora road construction would be undertaken jointly with Tabora Region. The only link between the two regions now is the central railway line. The Kigoma-Tabora road is expected to be built starting this June and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The Kigoma-Kasanga road may take up to three years. Ndugu Liundi did not mention the cost of constructing the roads. [Excerpt] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 20 Feb 84 p 3]

BULGARIAN SCHOLARSHIPS--BULGARIA will provide Tanzania at least 50 scholarships between now and December 1985 under an agreement signed in Dar es Salaam yesterday between the two countries. The Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Information and Culture, Ndugu G. Tebakweitira, and the Bulgarian Ambassador to Tanzania Ndugu Serfim Serafimov, signed the protocol on behalf of the two governments. According to the protocol, Bulgaria will grant annually to Tanzania 25 scholarships in specialized secondary schools and other institutions of higher learning. Tanzania offered one scholarship to Bulgaria for Kiswahili learning in the 1984/85 fiscal year. The two countries are expected to sign an agreement that will recognise each other's certificates, diplomas, degrees and titles. An educational delegation will visit Bulgaria in this respect, while there will be exchange of delegations at congresses, symposia and conference. Bulgaria pledged to provide teachers for secondary schools and institutions of higher learning. Tanzania would participate in the second international exhibition of folk crafts to be held in Oreshak in August, this year, the document said. Bulgarian Cinematography and the Tanzania film Company (TFC) would co-operate in the production of short films while Radio Tanzania Dar es Salaam and Bulgarian radio would sign a protocol of co-operation. The two countries would also co-operate in other educational, scientific, cultural and information fields, including sports and museums. [Boniface Byarugaba] [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 18 Feb 84 p 3]

BEANS, MEAT SHORTAGE--IRINGA--With the unavailability of beans and the subsequent unofficial inflation of meat prices here, secondary school and college authorities have complained that they cannot get the two items for students, Shihata reported. Since the beginning of the current academic year, students in Iringa have been forced to eat vegetables as an alternative almost every day. The beans shortage, which has robbed schools and other institutions of their most favoured food, was admitted by the National Milling Corporation (NMC) in the region early last month. The official meat prices have raised complaints from meat suppliers to the schools and colleges, that the prices caused them losses. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 20 Feb 84 p 1]

CANADIAN BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS--TANZANIA and Canada yesterday began a wide range of bilateral consultations to review Canadian aid to the country, Shihata reported. A Treasury official said in Dar es Salaam that the two sides would review implementation of projects financed by Canadian and agree on new programmes for the 1983/84 period. The official said an agreement was expected to be signed at the end of the talks on Saturday. The Tanzania team at the talks is headed by the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Ndugu Fulgence Kazaura, while the Canadian side is led by the country's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Mr Karl Johansen. The Canadian government through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), assists Tanzania in the fields of railways, telecommunications, agriculture, quarry buildings and power transmission. It also provides helps in commodity assistance programme, training and water and energy fields. Officials from the ministries of Economic Affairs and Planning, Agriculture, Communications and Transport, and Water and Energy are also attending the five-day annual consultations. Other officials are from the Tanzania Railways Corporation, National Agriculture and Food Corporation, Tanzania Electric Supply Company and Tanzania Investment Bank. Other members of the Canadian side includes Mr Roger Dumelie, the Acting Director for Tanzania who is based in Canada and other government and CIDA officials. Canada's Assistance to Tanzania ranges to the tune of 300m/- annually. [Text] [Dar es Salaam DAILY NEWS in English 21 Feb 84 p 1]

CSO: 3400/710

UPPER VOLTA

UN BENDS TO 'IMPERIALIST' PRESSURES

Ouagadougou CARREFOUR AFRICAINE in French No 815, 27 Jan 84 p 7

[Editorial by Babou Paulin Bamouni: "The August Revolution and the UN"]

[Text] Revolutionary Upper Volta is preparing to receive on its liberated African soil a notable guest, the secretary general of the United Nations, Javier Perez de Cuellar.

This visit by the head of the United Nations has a two-fold importance. First of all, it will be a defeat for the enemies of our revolution in their maneuvers to isolate our country. Secondly, it will permit revolutionary Upper Volta to say what it thinks, for one thing, of the international policy of the world organization.

In keeping with its proclamation of 4 August, revolutionary Upper Volta "proclaims its solidarity with all peoples, its wish to live in peace and friendship with all countries..." Thus, the Upper Volta position of 4 August is in no way in contradiction with the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, which advocates peace in the world, security and friendship among peoples and nations. A member of the organization since 1960, Upper Volta is today a full non-permanent member of the Security Council of that institution, defending the ideal of peace, friendship and understanding among nations in the name of the Upper Voltan revolution and in the name of all peoples who love justice. This is an honor.

In that context, the visit of the secretary general of the United Nations can only bring glory to our revolution which is dedicated to the dignity of its people and to social progress in a spirit of complete general of the United Nations has recognized the spirit of our revolution that he planned his coming trip to our country. And that constitutes a victory: a victory for our revolution, which, because its goals have been accepted, is battering down all attempts which have been orchestrated to isolate it. Yes, fiercely expressing their hostile desires, our enemies would have liked to see revolutionary Upper Volta bypassed by the secretary general of the United Nations during his African tour in order to show they were right and to allow them to show the world their hostility toward the revolutionary process underway in Upper Volta. This will not happen! That is proof that the Upper Voltan revolution has many friends and remains for many nations of the

world a hope and a symbol of dignity which history retains and will retain. Consequently, the Upper Voltan people plan to give a warm welcome to the secretary general of the United Nations, which is appropriate, although this does not mean that the August Revolution strews flowers in the path of all the present policies of that organization, which has become the private domain of certain powers which care little about the interests of oppressed peoples.

An organization of 158 nations, it is true that the United Nations works for peace, security in the world and for the development of its member states. But about this aspect, much remains to be said. For the formulation of a more concrete and more determining policy without playing the game of the dominant powers is necessary if the United Nations is really to come to the aid of the developing countries and if there is to be a just and durable peace in a world, which must be freed of imperialist-neocolonial wars which ravage the lives of peoples. Consequently, the United Nations will have to escape from the yoke imposed upon it by the imperialist states which, with the strength of their veto power, are able to impose upon a multitude of nations a reprehensible policy, trampling the freedom of peoples, their right to self determination, to social progress and to human dignity. If the organization wishes to be representative of all nations and to enjoy a neutrality which will be of benefit to all, it will have to free itself of all imperialist concerns and in particular those of the United States, which is trying not only to dictate globally to the world organization a certain policy, but which intervenes negatively in the 14 specialized institutions, such as UNESCO or the World Bank, for example, when the developing countries are concerned.

In the cases of the World Bank, has it not begun to wage war against the Upper Voltan revolution which it is subjecting to an economic blockade? The World Bank, under imperialist instigation, there can be no doubt, has recently been leading a campaign in all countries so that none can come to the aid of the Upper Voltan revolution. Where is the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, which speaks of the dedication of the organization through its institutions to the harmonious development of all states? Without denying the efforts made here and there in the name of the world organization and of its specialized institutions, the peoples of the world will not be content with a speech or good intentions, diverted by the gravediggers of liberty, who flourish because of the division among other peoples.

Whatever happens, it remains unthinkable to revolutionary Upper Volta to exchange the freedom and dignity of its people for any aid whatsoever. The United Nations cannot be the organization of the United States of America and for this reason the World Bank, which is dependent upon it, ought to live up to its name and earn the confidence of the nations by placing itself resolutely above the ideological criteria which seem to guide it in its aid policy. The Upper Voltan revolution, all things considered, deserves better from the United Nations and from its institutions.

8956

CSO: 3419/424

UPPER VOLTA

BRIEFS

MOBILE INVESTIGATIVE UNITS--Last Friday, the chief of state, Captain Thomas Sankara, signed a decree creating three mobile investigative units (EMI). Each unit is made up of a soldier, a gendarme and a delegate from the CDR [Revolutionary Democratic Council]. The mission of these EMI is to ascertain the personal property and real estate owned by persons called before the People's Revolutionary Courts, to carry out investigations and inquiries assigned to them, to gather all information and to bring together all matters which might facilitate the work of the People's Revolutionary Courts. [Excerpt] [Ouagadougou L'OVSERVATEUR in French 3, 4, 5 Feb 84 p 8] 8956

PANA MEMBERSHIP--Yesterday morning Upper Volta officially became the twenty-seventh (27th) full member of the Pan-African Information Agency (PANA). The documents establishing our membership in that agency were signed yesterday, 25 January 1984, in the office of Adama Toure, minister of Information, by, obviously, the man most directly responsible for the Information Services of Upper Volta, Adama Toure, and Cheick Ousmane Diallo, the general director of PANA. [Excerpt] [Ouagadougou L'OBSERVATEUR in French 26 Jan 84 p 8] 8956

ALGERIAN CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT COOPERATION--On 22 January of this year, the second secretary of the Algerian Embassy in Upper Volta, Comrade Smaili Belkassem, turned over to the chairman of the CNR [National Council of the Revolution] a collection of construction equipment earmarked for the Defense of the Revolution Committees (CDR). Upon accepting this aid from the Algerian people, the chief administrative officer to the chief of state, Comrade Issac Ouedraogo, explained the significance of this militant act by a people who have won their independence through violent struggle. The officer also pointed out that the Upper Voltan people will be worthy of this foreign aid which will help in building a new Upper Volta. In addition, in Comrade Issac Ouedraogo's view, this gift of equipment, a true act of south-south cooperation, is an example which should inspire other peoples. This collection of equipment is made up of: a truck built by the Societe Algerienne de Construction Mecanique (SONACOME), two tanks with a capacity of 600 liters each, a cement mixer, a dumper (for mixing gravel), fiberglass and slate panels, picks, trowels, saws, ect.... C.T. [Text] [Ouagadougou CARREFOUR AFRICAIN in French No 815, 27 Jan 84 p 31] 8956

ROK SCHOOL SUPPLIES--Yesterday morning, the ambassador of the Republic of Korea to our country, His Excellency Moon Ki Woo, presented to Emmanuel Dadjouari, minister of National Education, Arts and Culture, a gift of educational materials on behalf of his country. The gift included 40,000 notebooks, 4,500 dozen pencils, 2,300 pencil cases, 6,000 rulers, 6,000 bevel-squares, 700 dozen colored crayons, 4,500 packages of colored paper, 700 kits of pastel pencils, 1,500 large drawing pads, 23,000 pairs of scissors, 1,600 dozen ballpoint pens, 20,000 ballpoint refills. As he turned over this material to the school store of the Zinda Kabore Lycee of Ouagadougou, His Excellency Moon Ki Woo expressed his desire that this gift symbolize the cooperative spirit of our two peoples and consolidate even more the bonds of friendship between the two countries and that this gift, although small, might contribute to a certain extent to answering our needs. [Excerpt] [Ouagadougou L'OBSERVATEUR in French 1 Feb 84 p 9] 8956

CSO: 3419/424

ZAIRE

BRIEFS

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER DIES--The bureau of the Legislative Cojncil regrets to announce to all militants of the MPR the death of a Central Committee member and president of the Legislative Council, the Citizen Nzondomyo Adokpe Lingo which occurred today, Saturday, 3 March 1984, at 1400 after a brief illness. [Excerpt] [EA042110 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 3 Mar 83 NB1]

CSO: 3419/482

MINISTER NOTES DROUGHT RELIEF MEASURES, PROGRAMS

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 23 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] ABOUT 300,000 people have been seriously affected by the prolonged drought in Zambia, Minister of Agriculture and Water Development GENERAL KINGSLEY CHINKULI said in Parliament yesterday.

And the Government has asked the World Food Programme (WFP) to give Zambia 7,984 tonnes of maize and 910 tonnes of beans as relief food supplies.

The food would be supplied as soon as it was approved. It would be distributed to affected people in Siavonga, Gwembe and Namwala districts in Southern Province; Petauke, Katete, Chipata and Chadiza in Eastern Province; Sesheke and Senanga in Western Province and in Chief Nabwalya area in Northern Province.

Speaking during a debate on a private members' motion on the severe and prolonged drought, Gen Chinkuli said about 289,160 people were severely affected by drought in affected areas.

It was estimated that in Zambezi district 20,000 people out of 54,000 would be affected by drought. In Chizera 3,000 people would be affected out of a total population of 13,000.

Compiled

Some 6,000 people out of 27,000 would be affected in Kasempa. Figures for other areas were still being compiled, said Gen Shinkuli. It had been estimated that about 120,000 people were affected in the Senanga, Sesheke, Chipata and Chadiza districts.

He told Parliament that in order to meet its national food requirements the Government had requested various governments through their embassies in Lusaka for help.

The United States and The Netherlands had responded positively with the former offering an initial 3,000 tonnes of maize grant.

The US was promising 20,000 tonnes as concessionary gift to Zambia.

The national maize stock was 2,823,764 90 kg bags as at last Thursday.

"This stock level should, at the monthly consumption rate of 615,000 90 kg bags be able to last for four-and-a-half months which is up to the end of June."

But arrangements had been made through the Economic European Community, the USA, WFP and Zambia's own commercial efforts to import an extra 57,200 tonnes which would last until May 1, when the next marketing season officially opens.

Gen Chinkuli said because of the prolonged drought, the Government had during 1983, in addition to the world food aid, obtained commodity grants from the US, the EEC and The Netherlands.

The Government had spent K28 million to buy a total of 120,000 tonnes of maize from Malawi and Zimbabwe last year.

These efforts had helped in alleviating the effects of drought.

In regard to the rain season, Gen Chinkuli said the provincial administration was in the process of compiling reports together with proposed programmes of action on the drought situation in Zambia.

The Government looked at the prolonged drought as a matter of life and death and a matter of genuine concern to the nation because it resulted in hunger and disease.

Generally the drought had affected the whole of Zambia with varying intensity from province to province.

The rainfall so far for the 1983/84 season was reported to be generally better than in the past two seasons, but the season would only be judged to be better if the rains continued up to the end of March.

The Government had taken measures to improve the country's preparedness against the effects of drought now and in future through the construction of dams, weirs and boreholes.

Their real benefit "will accrue when there is sufficient rainfall to raise the water table". Work like drilling of boreholes was being undertaken by district councils in conjunction with the department of water affairs."

During the 1982/83 farming season, Government had allocated K4 million for drought relief in Southern Province and K1 million for the rest of the country.

His ministry would continue to provide the provincial administration with professional and technical staff to advise on the necessary steps.

It was estimated that the Southern Province alone would this year need K2 million for the construction of dams and weirs.

In addition to this, vigorous efforts would continue to obtain emergency food relief as had been the case in the previous three years.

"In addition to providing famine relief and the construction of water works, my ministry continued to undertake agricultural research that should lead to the development of crops and farming systems best suited to the drier parts of Zambia," said Gen Chinkuli.

In this regard ample work had been done on suitable sorghum and cotton varieties for drier areas.

Gen Chinkuli said given its limited resources and the appeal to the international community everything possible had been done to alleviate the effects of the drought.

And the Government has allocated three helicopters to Eastern Province to help ferry food supplies to famine stricken areas in Chipata and Chama district, reports Zana.

CSO: 3400/712

CIVIL SERVANTS GET SALARY INCREASES FROM NOVEMBER 1983

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 22 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpt] THE Government has awarded public service workers salary increments of between one and 11 per cent effective from last November 1, Labour and Social Services Minister Mr. Frederick Hapunda announced in Lusaka yesterday.

But Mr Hapunda told a Press conference that politicians and those earning K7,440 per year and above would not receive any increments to be paid to public workers from the end of next month.

And the four unions representing public service workers which were involved in the protracted negotiations have accepted the salary package.

The unions were: Civil Servants Union of Zambia (CSUZ), the Zambia National Union of Teachers (ZNUT), the Zambia United Local Authorities Workers Union (ZULAWU) and the National Union of Public Service Workers (NUPSW).

Following announcement of the salary package based on graduated basis, the Government and the four unions have urged the striking workers to return to work today.

Mr Hapunda said those who had gone on the illegal strikes would not be paid for the days they stayed away and warned that workers who do not report for work today would be considered to have terminated their services without notice.

The Government could not backdate the payment further because it was not in a position to pay any more than had been indicated and could not absorb extra costs.

Reacting to Mr Hapunda's announcement for the unions, ZULAWU chairman Mr Hubert Bweupe said in a statement the four unions had "reluctantly accepted the watered down salary increases" on condition the Government does not fail to pay out the new salaries and arrears next month.

The other condition was that unions concerned would be free to enter into fresh negotiations with the Government for further salary rises immediately the International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme expired.

In appealing to their members to report for work the unions warned the Government that in future they would not accept "any dictatorial imposition by the state of any salary increases or conditions of service outside those agreed upon by unions and the Government at the negotiating table".

"In short, the four national unions will in future expect Government as an employer to set a good example in good industrial relations by strictly adhering to the rules and norms of collective bargaining."

Mr Hapunda said the implementation of the increases dependend on the principle of ability by Government to pay and he urged the strikers to resume work today or face dismissal.

The wage and salary increases would cost the Government an extra K4 million in addition to the K22 million calculated from January 1, apart from the k30 million for annual increments.

The increases could not be backdated to last August 1, because this could have adversely affected the provision of essential services such as medical, educational and capital projects required for the welfare of the people.

The decision to graduate the increases was based on the Party and its Government policy of narrowing the gap between the lowly and highly paid workers.

Mr Hapunda noted that the economy had been going through "turbulent waters" because of the plummeting copper prices precipitated by the world economic recession and the discovery of substitutes to the metal.

This was exacerbated by the high oil import bill and the abrupt fall in agricultural production caused by the prolonged drought.

Under the circumstances Zambia was not in a financial position to pay any wage increases effective on a date earlier than November 1.

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BRIEFS

CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL AID PRAISED--NATIONAL Commission for Development Planning (NCDP) acting permanent secretary, Dr. Ephraim Kaunga yesterday praised Canada for assisting Zambia in her agricultural development. Dr Kaunga said the assistance in agriculture had come at the right time when the Zambian government was striving to be self-sufficient in food production. He was speaking after signing a development assistance agreement with the International Development Agency (CIDA), Counsellor for Development at the Canadian High Commission, Mr Bruce Wilson signed on behalf of CIDA. Under the agreement, CIDA will set aside between K15 million and K18 million each year during the next five years, and this will be directed primarily at agriculture and rural development with special emphasis on human resources development. Dr Kaunga said that discussions on the agreement started just a few weeks ago and was impressed to note that the Canadian government had responded within a short time. Dr Kaunga also explained that in view of Zambia's severe economic constraints, Canada would provide its aid to Zambia on grant basis. "We therefore hail Canada's assistance in various fields of development and this spirit should continue in order to strengthen our good relations." In reply, Mr Wilson who is also acting High Commissioner said his government was positive that the agreement would benefit Zambia in agricultural development. [Text] [Lusaka DAILY MAIL in English 18 Feb 84 p 1]

WFP EXPANDING FAMINE RELIEF--THE World Food Programme (WFP), joining hands with other aid organisations in Zambia, has stepped up its relief aid operations for famine-stricken areas in Senanga and Sesheke districts of Western Province. A spokesman for the world body said in Lusaka that already 216 metric tonnes of dried milk and 108 tonnes of edible fats had been distributed in the two districts, including the severest hit area of Imusho. There had been an allocation of 2,160 metric tonnes of maize for the area in 1983 and a large portion of this had been distributed but the exercise still continues. The relief operations, which had been intermitently hampered by lack of transport especially for maize from Sioma to outlying areas, had been salvaged by the army personnel moving in with trucks to transport the badly needed food to the victims of the widespread drought which had affected other parts of the country including Southern and Eastern provinces. Emergency aid has been extended to cover some areas of Southern Province for this particular exercise and those areas are Siavonga, Gwembe and Namwala. [Excerpt] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 20 Feb 84 p 5]

LITANA LAUDS SWEDISH AID--MEMBER of the Central Committee and Chairman of the Social and Cultural Sub-Committee Mr Bob Litana has commended Sweden for the continued economic help she has been giving Zambia over the years. Speaking at the official opening of the Post-basic School of Nursing at the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka yesterday, Mr Litana said the construction of the school had been made possible with funds given by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). Sweden through its agency had spend K1.4 million on structures equipment and furniture. [Excerpt] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 23 Feb 84 p 5]

ELECTRIC POWER PROJECT PLANNED--THE Copperbelt Power Company plans to set up transmission lines and sub-stations worth K12.71 million throughout Zambia. The company's electrical engineer Mr C.D. Gidwani told a Small-scale Industries Organisation [SIDO] seminar which ended in Kitwe at the weekend that the project would greatly benefit electricians intending to set up small electrical industries in the rural and urban areas. At the moment, Zambia was generating enough electricity to meet local demand and a surplus for export to Zaire and Zimbabwe. Plans included the electrification of all district development and peri-urban schemes. Others were projects with a direct bearing on agricultural development, rural cooperatives, primary schools and villages. Between K10,000 to K200,000 was needed to set up a single venture. Mr Gidwani said the creation of employment in the electrical industry was almost static because of low level investment. Some of the projects suggested in which small-scale electricians could participate are production of PVC domestic cables, copper earth plating, flexible copper cables and television transformers. [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 20 Feb 84 p 1]

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BRIEFS

STUDY CENTER'S THREATENED CLOSURE--The Chipinge District Administrator, Cde Godfrey Gonese, has threatened to close a new study centre in the area because, he says, it is illegal and racial. ZIS quotes a senior education official in the area as saying that members of the white community had opened the new study centre claiming that standards at Chipinge's primary schools had gone down and that their children would have a better chance of learning Bible knowledge. It says the centre opened at the beginning of the year with 15 pupils. The school failed to produce a permit from the Ministry of Education when asked. "Unless we see the permit the local authorities will not allow it to continue functioning," said Cde Gonese. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 15 Feb 83 p 1]

MAIZE SUPPLIES CAUSE CONCERN--The Government was urged yesterday to ensure more maize was allocated to millers, to avoid a possible mealie-meal shortage. The call was made during the debate on the adjournment by Mr Bill Irvine (Ind. Marlborough) who said the position at the moment was quite serious and that steps should be taken to increase supplies. "We have had assurances before that supplies are adequate, but it seems that they are inadequate," he said. Mr Esmond Micklem (Ind., Northern) said unless urgent steps were taken the nation could face starvation by April. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 15 Feb 84 p 4]

MAIZE DELIVERY INCENTIVES--The Minister of Agriculture, Senator Denis Norman yesterday announced maize delivery incentives aimed at ensuring that stocks are maintained within the country. He said the Grain Marketing Board would pay an early delivery incentive price of \$20 per tonne for all maize delivered to the board's depots before April 30. There would also be a delivery incentive of \$15 per tonne for all maize deliveries during May. The money was in addition to the pre-planting price of \$140 per tonne previously announced by the Government. In addition the Government had made arrangements for the procurement of maize imports to supplement any shortfall in local production which may result from the present very dry season. Sen Norman said he was satisfied that the combined measures taken would enable the Government to not only feed the nation but maintain a satisfactory reserve of grain.--Own Corr. [Text] [Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE in English 14 Feb 84 p 1]

TRADE UNIONISTS TO BULGARIA--A delegation of six Zimbabwean trade unionists left Harare yesterday for Bulgaria, said a spokesman for the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions. The delegates, who were drawn from some affiliate unions of the ZCTU will study labour relations for 45 days. The programme is being sponsored by a joint co-operation agreement between the Bulgarian government and the ZCTU.--Own Cor. [Text] [Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE in English 13 Feb 84 p 1]

'TOP OFFICIALS' RESIGNATION--Harare.--Two top officials of Zimbabwe's National Chamber of Commerce have resigned. They are the president, Mr Abner Botsh, and the chief executive, Mr Keith Nicholson. Mr Botsh said yesterday his resignation was voluntary and that he wanted to concentrate on his business interests. He is being succeeded by the vice-president, Mr Ernest Chiweshe. Mr Nicholson would not comment on the reason for his departure. He is due to take up an appointment with an Harare company some time in March.--Sapa. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 14 Feb 84 p 4]

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